

INSIDE TODAY

U.S. NEWS

Pakistani police: 5 Americans have al-Qaida link



Nihad Awad, national executive director for the Council on American-Islamic Relations, speaks at a news conference in Washington, Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2009, regarding the arrest in Pakistan of five missing American young men. Behind him is Haris Tarin, Washington director for the Muslim Public Affairs Council, left, and Imam Mahdi Bray, executive director of the Muslim American Society Freedom, right.

(AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

Page 3

PEOPLE & ARTS

Attorneys ask court to dismiss Polanski sex case



Director Roman Polanski reacts during a news conference to present his musical 'Tanz der Vampire' ('Dance of the Vampires') in Oberhausen September 29, 2008. REUTERS/Ina Fassbender

Page 10

SECTION B

Local News	1
Island Guide	8
Classifieds	13
Latino	15

Nobel-winning Obama defends war in call for peace

By BEN FELLER,
Associated Press Writer

OSLO — Newly enshrined among the world's great peacemakers, President Barack Obama offered a striking defense of war. Eleven months into his presidency, a fresh Obama doctrine. Evil must be vigorously opposed, he declared as he accepted the Nobel Peace Prize on Thursday. At the same time, he made an impassioned case for building a "just and lasting peace."

"I face the world as it is, and cannot stand idle in the face of threats to the American people," Obama told his audience in Oslo's soaring City Hall. "For make no mistake: Evil does exist in the world." Pronouncing himself humbled by such an honor so early in "my labors on the world stage," Obama nevertheless turned his Nobel moment into an unapologetic defense of armed intervention in times of self defense or moral necessity.

Continued on Page 6



President and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Barack Obama poses with his medal and diploma alongside Nobel committee chairman Thorbjorn Jagland at the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony at City Hall in Oslo, Thursday, Dec. 10, 2009.

(AP Photo/John McConnico)

CDC: About 1 in 6 Americans have had swine flu



A sign-in station for H1N1 flu inoculation is seen at the Geisinger Health System campus in Danville, Pennsylvania October 28, 2009.

REUTERS/Brad Bower/Files

By MIKE STOBBE,
AP Medical Writer

ATLANTA — Health officials now estimate that swine flu

has sickened nearly 50 million Americans and killed nearly 10,000.

The new estimates mean about 1 in 6 Americans have had the illness.

The figures were released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on

Thursday.

The CDC also estimates that 200,000 people have been hospitalized since the virus was first identified in April though mid-November. That's the same amount that occurs normally in an entire flu season. □



Promotion day arrives for white Conn. Firefighters



FILE - In this photo taken June 29, 2009, Frank Ricci, left, lead plaintiff in the the 'New Haven 20' firefighter reverse discrimination case speaks to the media outside of Federal Court in New Haven, Conn. The Supreme Court ruled in a 5-4 decision that white firefighters in New Haven, Conn., were unfairly denied promotions because of their race, reversing a decision that high court nominee Sonia Sotomayor endorsed as an appeals court judge.

(AP Photo/Jessica Hill, File)

By **JOHN CHRISTOFFERSEN**,
Associated Press Writer
NEW HAVEN, Conn. — A group of white firefighters who won a discrimination case before the U.S. Supreme Court received their promotion badges Thursday to cheers

and whistles in an emotional ceremony that provided symbolic recognition of their victory. "I'm just thrilled it happened," said newly promoted Capt. Gary Carbone. "It felt like time stood still. I was so excited to get the badge."

The high court ruled in June that New Haven officials violated white firefighters' civil rights when they threw out 2003 test results in which too few minorities did well. The case became an issue in confirmation hearings for Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, who ruled against the white firefighters when she served on a federal appeals court.

Fourteen firefighters who sued were promoted to lieutenant and captain. Another 10 firefighters, including four minorities, who took the 2003 tests but were not plaintiffs in the court case also will be promoted.

"Today is a great day. It takes a lot of stress off our shoulders. We just can't wait to get up there and get our badges," said one of the plaintiffs, Steven Durand, who was accepting his promotion to lieutenant. Durand, 36, predicted the case would result in "sweeping changes" around the country in how promotions are handled. Dennis Thompson, an attorney for black firefighters who tried

unsuccessfully last month to block the promotions of the plaintiffs, said Wednesday that his clients congratulate the newly promoted firefighters. "Nobody is going to say these guys are unqualified," Thompson said.

But Thompson, who is trying to intervene in federal court in New Haven to challenge the validity of the exams now that they have been certified, said the fight is not over because the black firefighters were not heard. In other cases cities have been required to make more promotions than planned, he said.

"They understand this is a 15-round fight," Thompson said of his clients. "You don't decide who won in Round 3." That prompted an angry reaction from Karen Torre, attorney for the white firefighters.

"Attorney Thompson's provocations and promise, to me, only demonstrates the need for the Supreme Court to take up the issue of the constitutionality of that provision of Title VII that

allows such people to paralyze local governments and the civil service and hold the public hostage to endless litigation over the issue of race," Torre said in a statement.

David Rosen, an attorney for a black New Haven firefighter who is suing the city and arguing he was unfairly denied a promotion, said Wednesday that his client, Michael Briscoe, is happy for the promoted firefighters and has congratulated several of them.

"He's not trying to take a slot away from one of the people being promoted," Rosen said. "There are other vacant positions."

Frank Ricci, the lead plaintiff among the white firefighters, told the Senate in July during Sotomayor's confirmation process that the lower court ruling against him "divides people who don't wish to be divided along racial lines."

Ricci told the panel that "achievement is neither limited nor determined by one's race but by one's skills, dedication, commitment and character."

Stubborn storm leaves behind a shivering nation

By **CAROLYN THOMPSON**,
Associated Press Writer
BUFFALO, N.Y. — A deadly, windy storm that has paralyzed a wide swath of the nation for days left bitter cold behind as it finally made its exit Thursday, with temperatures below freezing in several states and gusts that made it feel as cold as minus 25.

Power failures in the Midwest, dozens of lost hunters in the West and howling winds that helped blow over a bus in New York provided just a few lingering miseries from the first major storm of the season.

Emergency rooms took in people who had slipped and fallen, overdone shoveling or reached their hands into clogged snowblowers, while tow trucks freed drivers from the sides of icy roads and everyday residents simply struggled to get around in the

frigid winds. "Like I stuck my face in the freezer," was how Bincy Mathew described the feeling in Chicago on Thursday, complaining about his watering eyes: "I think they are going to freeze up."

Aileen Azares, 42, of Dallas, spent part of the day taking photos in Chicago's Millennium Park, where sculptures sported snow hats and icicle beards. Azares wore a pink scarf but was still cold. "Right now my ears are hurting," Azares said.

The days-old storm made its first punch in the West before plowing across two-thirds of the country with heavy snow, icy winds, and even lightning and thunder before preparing to blow out to sea off Maine. In northern Arizona, 25 to 30 elk hunters remained stranded for a fourth day in

below-freezing weather, and searchers feared the parties would run out of food and heating fuel before the next storm hit, possibly over the weekend.

The Coconino County Sheriff's Office said the hunters were trapped by the 2 to 3 feet of snow that fell Monday.

Authorities received several reports of stranded or overdue hunting parties but expected to get more calls as the elk hunting season drew to an end Thursday.

"The storm just hit when everyone was out in the field," said sheriff's spokesman Gerry Blair.

Michigan residents hunkered down under a blizzard warning as the coldest air of the season crossed Lake Michigan.

More than 120,000 people lost power in the state, in the middle of a swath from Iowa to West Virginia and up to



Karalee Briggs walks her dogs Babe, left, and Boomer through the streets of Janesville, Wis., Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2009. Briggs was walking in the road because some sidewalks were not cleared following the overnight storm that dropped more than a foot of snow on the city as it crossed much of the central plains.

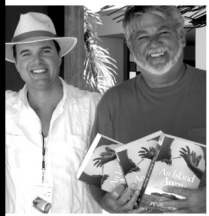
(AP Photo/The Janesville Gazette, Dan Lassiter)

Maine where residents were in the dark at some point. High snow totals, fueled by winds blowing over lakes Erie and Ontario, were possible for parts of New York through Saturday, including south of Buffalo and north of Syracuse.

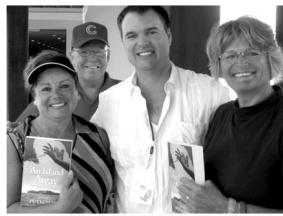
While less than three inches of snow fell on Buffalo, winds gusting between 50 mph and 60 mph blinded drivers, grounded flights and forced most schools

to close. Frequent thunder and lightning lit up the sky before dawn.

A double-decker bus carrying 12 passengers from New York City to Toronto overturned on the New York State Thruway near Buffalo when the driver made an unsafe lane change during the worst of the storm early Thursday, state police said. Nine on board were taken to hospitals with injuries not considered life threatening. □



DISCOVER ARUBA'S #1 Bestseller



★★★★★ "A must-read, no-holds-barred look at Aruba." — LAGO-COLONY.com

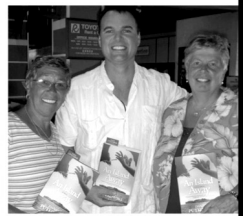
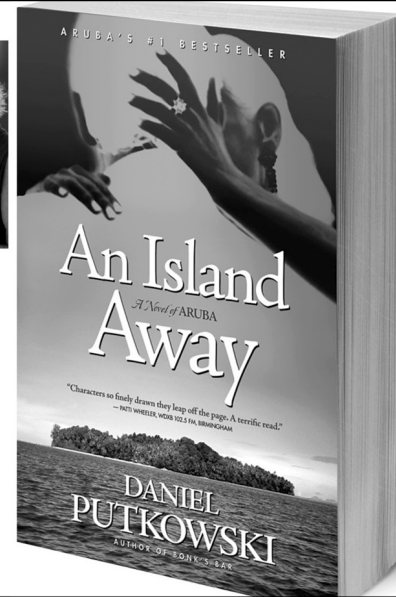
AVAILABLE IN ARUBA:

DeWit & VanDorp - Queen Beatrix Airport
Seaport Passage - Renaissance Mall
VanDorp Gifts - Occidental Grand
VanDorp Gifts - Bucuti Beach Resort
VanDorp Gifts - Holiday Inn SunSpree
VanDorp Gifts - Tamarijn Aruba

VanDorp Gifts - Paradise Beach Villas
VanDorp Gifts - Manchebo
DeWit & VanDorp - Certified MegaMall
DeWit & VanDorp - Dakota
DeWit & VanDorp - Oranjestad
Aruba Post - San Nicolas
Antraco Bazaar - Casa Del Mar

Ocean Drive - Aruba Marriott Resort
Island Life - Marriott Ocean Club
Red Sail Sports - Hyatt Regency Resort
Tropical Breeze - Radisson Resort
Tradewynds - Westin Resort
Tropical Market - Marriott Ocean Club
Tropical Temptations - Costa Linda

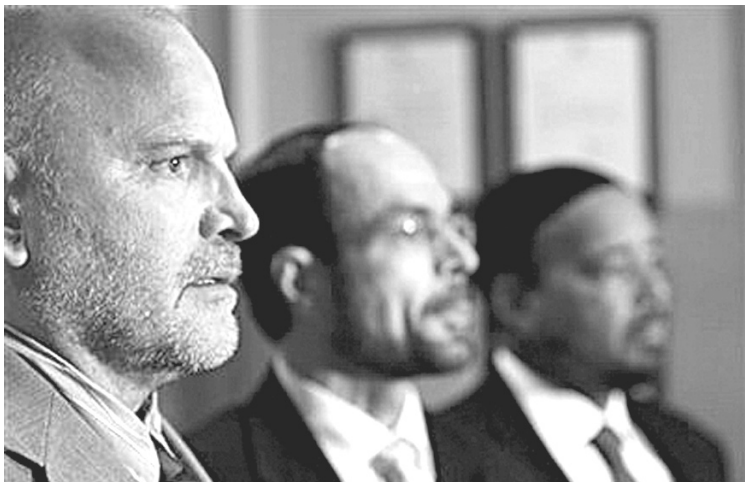
amazon.com and you're done! bno.com amazonkindle DANIELPUTKOWSKI.COM



ALSO DON'T MISS
PUTKOWSKI'S NEW BOOK
BONK'S BAR
Recently Featured in
Philadelphia City Paper



Pakistani police: 5 Americans have al-Qaida link



Ibrahim Hooper, left, spokesman for the Council on American-Islamic Relations, speaks at a news conference regarding the arrest in Pakistan of five missing young men in Washington, Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2009. Behind him are CAIR national executive director Nihad Awad, center, and Imam Mahdi Bray, executive director of the Muslim American Society Freedom, right.

(AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

By ASIF SHAHZAD and DEVLIN BARRETT, Associated Press Writers
WASHINGTON — Five young American Muslims arrested in Pakistan met with representatives of an al-Qaida linked group and asked for training but were turned down because they lacked references from trusted militants, a Pakistani law enforcement official said Thursday. U.S. officials in Pakistan have now visited the men in custody, after their disappearance late last month prompted a frantic search by friends and family and an investigation by worried counterterrorism officials. "We have had access to the five detainees," Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton told reporters Thursday at an unrelated news conference. She called the move "part of the usual outreach" of the U.S. government and declined further comment. Javed Islam, a regional police

chief in Pakistan, said the men wanted to join militants in the country's tribal area before crossing into Afghanistan and said they met with a banned military organization, Jaish-e-Mohammed in Hyderabad, and with representatives of a related group, Jamat-ud-Dawa, in Lahore. Another law enforcement official, Usman Anwar, the local police chief in Sargodha, told The Associated Press that the five are "directly connected" to the al-Qaida terrorist network. "They are proudly saying they are here for jihad" or holy war, Anwar said. The men used the social networking site Facebook and the Internet video site YouTube to try to connect with extremist groups in Pakistan, said S.M. Imran Gardezi, the press minister at the Pakistani Embassy in Washington. When they arrived in Pakistan, they took that effort to the street. "They were trying to link up

to some groups, but there is no evidence for now that there was a definite plan," Gardezi said.

Local Pakistanis became suspicious of the young men and tipped off police, he said. Police arrested the group in a home belonging to the uncle of one of the men. Gardezi said the uncle had past ties to extremist groups. Gardezi said the men have not been turned over to the FBI and said Pakistan intended to carry out its own legal process.

Another break in the case came not from federal agents or spies, but parents worried their sons may have made a terrible decision.

The families, based in the northern Virginia and Washington, D.C., area, were particularly concerned after watching what is described as a disturbing farewell video from the young men, showing scenes of war and casualties and saying Muslims must be defended.

"One person appeared in that video and they made references to the ongoing conflict in the world and that young Muslims have to do something," said Nihad Awad, of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, or CAIR. The video has not been made public.

After the disappearance of the five men in late November, their families, members of the local Muslim community, sought help from CAIR, which put them in touch with the FBI and got them a lawyer.

The men range in age from 19 to 25. One, Ramy Zamzam, is a dental student at Howard

University. Pakistani police officer Tahir Gujjar identified three of the others under arrest as Eman Yasir, Waqar Hasan, and Umer Farooq. Farooq's father, Khalid Farooq, also was detained. Pakistan police officials

say the elder Farooq had a computer business in Virginia and shuttled between the U.S. and Pakistan. Investigators are still trying to establish what role — if any — he played in the men's alleged activities, officials said. □

Special Month of December!

Appetizer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fish Soup Onion Soup Conch Fritters Escargot Salad
Entrée	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fresh Catch of the Day prepared by our local chef just the way you like it. Jumbo Shrimp from our local waters, breaded served with potato or rice or with garlic tossed over linguine. Filet Mignon 8 oz. US Tenderloin Grilled Boneless Chicken Breast
Dessert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chocolate or Banana Cake Ice Cream Coffee / Tea

* This special cannot be used with any other promotions, vouchers or certificates.

Driftwood Restaurant
Authentic Aruban Seafood

3-course dinner \$24 per person

Open daily 5:00 pm - 10:30 pm
(Closed on Tuesdays)
Klipstraat 12 • Tel: 583-2515

Unions pressure Democrats on health insurance tax



Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., leaves a Democratic caucus on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2009.

(AP Photo/Harry Hamburg)

By ERICA WERNER,
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Union leaders, among the most passionate backers of President Barack Obama's health care overhaul, pressed Democratic senators Thursday to drop a tax on high-value insurance plans to pay for remaking the nation's system.

Members of several labor unions denounced the proposed tax on so-called "Cadillac plans," arguing it wouldn't just hit CEOs but

also middle-class Americans who did without salary increases to negotiate better health benefits.

"I support health care reform but I can't afford this tax," Valerie Castle Stanley, an AT&T call center worker and member of the Communications Workers of America, said at a news conference outside the Capitol.

"For families like mine that are on a budget, the results will be devastating."

The Senate has been debating

the health care bill since the beginning of last week but temporarily stopped Thursday afternoon to take up an unrelated spending bill. Debate on the health bill is expected to resume Monday.

At issue for the labor unions is a proposed 40 percent excise tax on insurance companies, keyed to premiums paid on health care plans costing more than \$8,500 annually for individuals and \$23,000 for families. The tax would raise some \$150 billion over 10 years to help pay for the Democrats' nearly \$1 trillion health care bill. The legislation, which appears to be edging closer to passage, would revamp the U.S. health care system with new requirements on individuals and employers designed to extend health coverage to more than 30 million uninsured Americans.

The threshold for insurance plans that would be taxed had been adjusted higher in response to union members' concerns, and Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., a leader of those efforts, has said there could be further changes. But

labor organizations including the Teamsters, the AFL-CIO and the National Education Association are urging the Senate to drop the tax entirely and take the approach embraced by the House, which would raise income taxes on individuals making more than \$500,000 a year and couples making more than \$1 million. Union leaders have brought hundreds of members to the Capitol this week to lobby lawmakers.

"We should tax the millionaires, not teachers and bus drivers," said Lily Eskelsen, vice president of the National Education Association.

Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., who spoke at Thursday's news conference, has authored an amendment with Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, to strip out the insurance plan tax, but doesn't yet have agreement from Senate leaders to offer it.

A number of Senate Democrats and White House officials support the insurance plan tax because they believe it would help hold down health care costs by providing an incentive for companies and workers to spend less on health care packages.

On the Senate floor Thursday, Sens. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., and John McCain, R-Ariz., pushed an amendment to allow U.S. pharmacies and drug wholesalers to import Food and Drug Administration-approved drugs from Canada,

Europe and a few other countries. It was unclear when a vote would take place, and people on both sides of the issue said it will be tough for supporters to get the 60 votes they'll need to win.

As a candidate, Obama supported allowing U.S. consumers to order lower-cost prescriptions from abroad. As president, he needs the backing of the drug industry to push his health care bill through Congress. While administration officials contend the president still agrees in principle, the FDA is saying it would be difficult to fully guarantee the safety of imports, lending weight to the industry's main argument.

The most crucial work on the overall bill was being done behind closed doors, where Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., and his lieutenants were hunting support for a tentative deal among moderate and liberal Democrats to expand the government's role in providing care.

In a bow to a crucial bloc of liberals, the compromise drops a full-blown government health plan that's a top priority for liberals. Instead, the same federal agency that negotiates health insurance for federal workers and members of Congress — the Office of Personnel Management — would administer national, nonprofit plans available to the public. □



NEW POKER ROOM

Test your skills with others who love the THRILL of Live Poker
The hottest game on the Island

NO LIMITS Texas Hold'em

Blinds \$2 - \$5 | Minimum Buy-In: \$100
Poker Room opening hours: 8:30pm - 4:00am

Registration at the Players Advantage Club booth starting at 12 noon



J.E. Irausquin Blvd. # 85, Palm Beach - Aruba
For more info please call: 586-1234, ext.4583
www.hyattcasinoaruba.com

The Dutch Pancake House

at Seaport Market Place • Tel: 583-7180



Open from
8:30am - 9:00pm
Everyday

Tel: 582-0697 / 583-7484
Schotland str. 70

Extend your Stay at
Quality Apartments

*Studio & Loft Apts. *Fully Furnished
*Kitchen / Airco / Cable TV *Swimming Pool
Less than 1 mile from Eagle Beach & 4 large supermarkets.
Feel free to contact or visit us.
Mon - Fri: 8am-7pm. Sat & Sun: 9am-5pm.

NYC police: Officer kills Times Square scammer

By TOM HAYS
and CRISTIAN SALAZAR,
Associated Press Writers

NEW YORK — A plainclothes cop chased a scam artist through sidewalks crowded with holiday shoppers and tourists Thursday in the heart of Times Square, killing the suspect near a landmark Broadway hotel after a gunfight that shattered box office and gift shop windows, police said.

No one else was injured.

The 25-year-old suspect and his brother were trying to dupe tourists into buying CDs and movies along Broadway and 46th Street just before noon when he was recognized by a sergeant who runs a task force that monitors aggressive panhandling, Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said.

The officer asked them for their tax identification, which allows peddlers to sell on the streets. But suspect took off running, through to the Marriott Marquis hotel's passenger drop-off area, Kelly said.

The sergeant pursued, and the man turned and fired with a stolen Mac-10 machine pistol that held 30 rounds; he got off two shots before it jammed, police said. The officer fired four times, striking the suspect in the chest and arm and killing him, Kelly said.

"We're lucky the weapon jammed," Kelly said.

The commissioner said the shooting preliminarily appeared to be within department guidelines, which allow for deadly force when an officer's life is threatened. Dave Kinahan, a tourist from Boston, was parking his car in a spot below street level at the hotel when he saw one man shooting another.

"I was 20 yards away," Kinahan said. He said he thought, "Is this real or this a movie?"

The hotel is located in the Broadway theater district in the heart of Times Square. The Marquis Theatre, where "White Christmas" is now playing, is in the hotel. Bullets from the gunfight shattered the window of the Broadway Baby gift shop and a side

window of the box office on the street, police said.

Duncan Stewart, a Broadway casting director for National Artists Management Co., has a 12th-floor office that overlooks Times Square. He said he was on the phone when he heard three loud pops.

Stewart has worked in Times Square for the past three years. He has gotten used to seeing the weird and wacky, but almost never anything violent.

"It's bizarre. It's one thing to see the Naked Cowboy day after day in Times Square, but a shooting is something different altogether," he said. The slain man was not immediately identified. His brother was in police custody. Police say the two were working a scam in which they would approach tourists, ask them their names, then write their names on the CDs and movies and demand payment of \$10.

The suspect had been wanted for assault in the Bronx. The gun he used in the shooting was reported stolen in Richmond, Va., on Oct. 28, police said.

He also had with him several business cards from gun dealers there, but it's not clear if he was also selling weapons, police said.

One of the cards had a handwritten message on the back: "I just finished watching 'The Last Dragon.' I feel sorry for a cop if he think I'm getting into his paddy wagon," according to police. It's unclear who wrote the message, which apparently references the 1985 martial arts movie.

NYPD spokesman Paul Browne said officers pay special attention to scams and panhandling during the holidays. Specialized units are set up in areas, including Times Square and Canal Street, where stolen goods, knockoffs and scams are prevalent.

"We focus on them this time of the year, because they're preying on tourists during the Christmas holidays," Browne said.

New York City's crackdown on panhandling began under former Mayor Rudy Giuliani, when "zero-tolerance"

policing was instituted to curb quality-of-life offenses. Panhandling, public drinking, public urinating, graffiti and disorderly conduct were all part of the crackdown as a way to bring order to the city by sending the message that no crime would be tolerated.

When Mayor Michael Bloomberg first took office in 2002, one of the first things he did was launch "Operation Clean Sweep," aimed at those same quality-of-life problems. By the end of Bloomberg's first term, the program had resulted in some 33,000 arrests and 350,000 summonses.

A few hours after the shooting, the area had returned to the normal holiday bustle, even as dozens of police officers surrounded the hotel, taping off the valet parking area.



Pedestrians walk past a cordoned off section surrounding the Marriot Marquis hotel where a shooting took place in the hotel's passenger drop-off area, Thursday, Dec.10, 2009, in New York. An undercover cop chased a Times Square scam artist through sidewalks crowded with holiday shoppers and tourists Thursday, exchanged gunfire with the suspect and killed him near a landmark hotel, police said.

(AP Photo/Louis Lanzano)

Donna Anderson of Murray, Utah, was staying at the Marquis. She was intrigued by what happened — not scared. "I wanted to get a picture of the crime scene," she said. □

Sumptuous Sundowner

Introducing a special early evening menu, served from 5:30pm till 7pm

- Appetizer -

Cream of Assorted Vegetables
or
Caesar Salad
or
Fried Calamari with Marinara Sauce

- Entrée -

Surf and Turf - Garlic Shrimp (4)
with Petit Filet
or
Grilled Certified Angus Beef
Shish Kabobs
or
Pan-fried Mahi-Mahi
with Mango Salsa
or
Chicken Breast Picatta
served over Fettuccini

- Dessert -

Carrot Cake with Carrot Jelly
& Raspberry Sauce
or
Traditional Crème Brulée

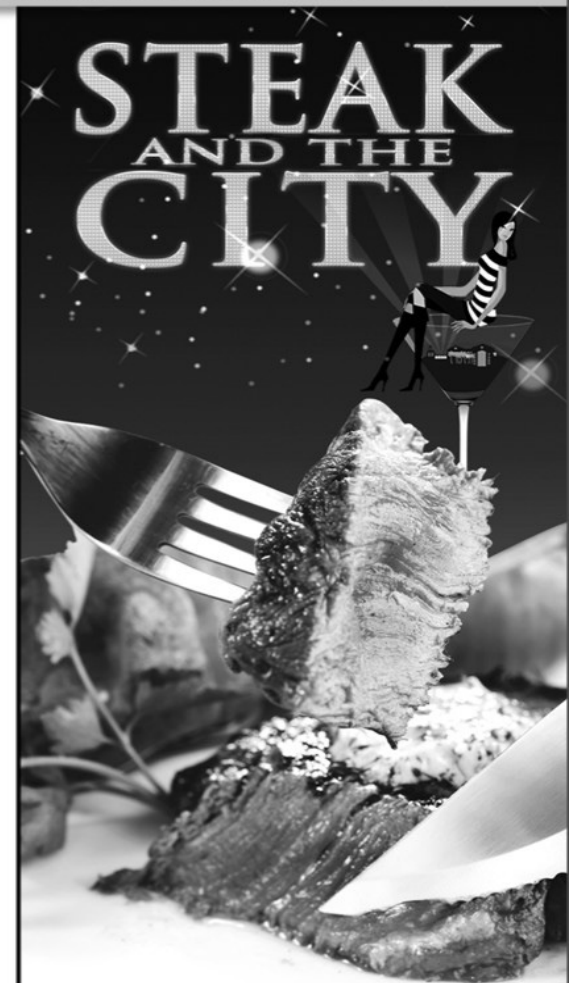
Choose two side dishes from our
extensive list and one glass of
Concha y Toro's Casillero del Diablo
(Chardonnay or Merlot) or an ice cold
Balashi Beer per person.

\$79 per couple
service charge included

L. G. SMITH'S

STEAK & CHOP HOUSE

www.lgsmiths.com



PILSENER BEER
Balashi
BREWED IN ARUBA
Aruba's Beer

Casillero del Diablo
Romar Trading

Not available on special days or
combinable with other special offers.

Located Downtown next to the Crystal Casino
Open daily from 5:30pm until 11pm • For reservations call: 523-6195



\$19.95, All You Can Eat Dinner Buffet

Served daily from 5:00 to 10 p.m (price per person and subject to service charge & tax)

■ **Sundown Special**, receive 10% off your meal when seated by 6 p.m.

*Kids Eat Free *Kids under age 12, one per paying adult

■ **Monday** Seafood Sampler

Tuesday Bravo Italiano

Wednesday An island favorite - BBQ night

Thursday Chateaubriand, Oo-la-la

Friday International Seafood Festival

Saturday Simply Perfect - Prime Rib

LagunaRestaurantAruba.com J.E. Irausquin Boulevard 81, Palm Beach, Radisson.com/Aruba 526.6612 or 526.6613

Radisson
ARUBA
RESORT, CASINO & SPA



Dr Williard S. Boyle, left, receives the Nobel Prize in Physics from King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden during the Nobel prize award ceremony at the Stockholm Concert Hall, Stockholm, Sweden, Thursday, Dec. 10, 2009.

(THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/Scanpix/Pontus Lundahl/Pool)



Eagle Beach
Ocean View
Apartments
Bike & Locker Rental

- Modern Furnished Apts
- Complete Kitchen
- Cleaning Service/Laundromat
- The perfect setting for retirees
- Excellent for Extended Stays & Ideal for Stagiaires
- 1 minute walking distance to the beach
- Eagle Beach is the most pristine beach on the Island
- So peaceful, the turtles come ashore to nest Yearly
- Quiet & Safe Surroundings
- Internet Service - Cable TV

TEL: (297) 587-8655

www.arubaoceanviewapt.com
E-mail: arubaoceanviewapt@setarnet.aw
L.G.Smith Blvd.234

NOBEL OBAMA

Continued from Front Page

The hawkish message was an inevitable nod to the controversy defining his selection: an American president, lauded for peace just as he escalates the long, costly war in Afghanistan.

It was a jarring moment when Obama, in the midst of the ceremony, said of his troops in Afghanistan: "Some will kill. Some will be killed."

He lauded previous Nobel winners Mohandas Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr., preachers of nonviolent action. But he added, "A nonviolent movement could not have halted Hitler's armies. Negotiations cannot convince al-Qaida's leaders to lay down their arms."

"To say that force is sometimes necessary is not a call to cynicism, it is a recognition of history."

The president laid out circumstances in which war is justified — in self-defense, to come to the aid of an invaded nation, on humanitarian grounds such as when civilians are slaughtered by their own government.

At the same time, he also stressed a need to fight war according to "rules of conduct" that reject torture, the murder of innocents and other atrocities.

"We lose ourselves when we compromise the very ideals that we fight to defend," he said. "And we honor those ideals by upholding them not when it's easy, but when it is hard."

He emphasized a need to exhaust alternatives to violence, including worldwide sanctions with teeth to confront nations such as Iran or North Korea that defy international demands. He pushed himself away from George W. Bush in defending diplomatic outreach that engages even enemies. He defined peace as civil rights, free speech and economic opportunity, not just the absence of conflict.

"Let us reach for the world that ought to be," Obama said. "We can understand that there will be war, and still strive for peace."

Back in the U.S., presidential historians and foreign policy specialists saw the speech as underscoring Obama's revamping of America's stance — away from confrontation and toward cooperation and negotiation when possible, and military action when unavoidable.

Zbigniew Brzezinski, who was President Jimmy Carter's national security adviser, said Obama

had presented "a very broadly stated case that we cannot in all circumstances avoid war." But he said he would have liked to have heard "some greater clarification of how he will pursue the broad objectives he has articulated."

Obama showed "a sense of daring" in talking about war as he was honored as a man of peace, said John Baick, professor of history at Western New England College in Springfield, Mass. "He bared his soul, said we were going to have to kill, have to send soldiers to die, we hope we're doing the right thing," Baick said.

The centerpiece of Obama's swift trip to Europe, the speech doubled the length of his inaugural address.

Appearing tired here, Obama had worked all the way through the night on the flight to Norway, an aide said.

Such is the weight of he prize. Suddenly and forever, Obama is in the company of Gandhi, King, Nelson Mandela, Mother Teresa, the Dalai Lama.

He drew laughter from his hosts when he acknowledged "the considerable controversy that your generous decision has generated."

"My accomplishments are slight," Obama said, by comparison to such "giants of history." In addition to other Nobel winners, he said the unrecognized masses who fight for peace are "far more deserving."

Obama's wife, first lady Michelle Obama, listened to her husband's words and showed tears by the end.

The president was accompanied by a small crew of family, friends and advisers.

Politically, the White House was careful not to play up Obama's big award, what with so many families hurting economically at home and more troops heading off to war. Quite a few Norwegians were said to be miffed that he stayed but a day, not the usual three, and skipped a number of traditional events.

Still there was ceremony aplenty.

Before an evening banquet with Norwegian royalty, the Obamas stepped onto their hotel balcony to wave to a crowd of thousands who had gathered for a torchlight procession. In the square below, there were chants of "Yes, we can" and "O-ba-ma" as scores of torches were held aloft. Nearby, up to 2,000 demonstrators protested, many carrying banners demanding the U.S. get out of Afghanistan. □

Nobel Prizes honor a record 5 women in 2009

By MALIN RISING and LOUISE NORDSTROM, Associated Press Writers
STOCKHOLM — A record five women were among the 13 people awarded Nobel Prizes on Thursday, including a writer who depicted life behind the Iron Curtain and researchers who showed how chromosomes protect themselves from degrading. Sweden's King Carl XVI Gustaf handed out the prestigious 10 million kronor (\$1.4 million) awards in

chemistry, physics, medicine, literature and economics during a glitzy ceremony at Stockholm concert hall. Hour earlier, President Barack Obama received the peace prize in Oslo. The Stockholm ceremony is topped off by a lavish banquet in the capital's city hall — where laureates are served a succulent three-course gala dinner whose menu is kept top secret. The awards were created by the 1895 will of prize founder

Alfred Nobel, which stipulates that the prizes be given to those who “have conferred the greatest benefit on mankind.” The prizes were first awarded in 1901.

In total, only 40 women have won the prestigious prizes, including Marie Curie who took the 1903 physics prize and the 1911 chemistry prize. Romanian-born author Herta Mueller accepted the Nobel literature award for her critical depiction of life behind the Iron Curtain — work drawn largely from her personal experiences. Mueller's mother spent five years in a communist gulag, and the writer herself was tormented by the Securitate secret police because she refused to become their informant.

At the prize ceremony, Professor Anders Olsson of the Swedish Academy praised Mueller for her “great courage in uncompromisingly repudiating provincial repression and political terror.”

“It is for the artistic value in that opposition that you merit this prize,” he said. “Even though you have said that silence and suppression taught you to write, you have given us words that grip us deeply and directly.”

Elinor Ostrom, 76, made



Professor Carol W. Greider, left, receives the Nobel Prize in Medicine from King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden during the Nobel prize award ceremony at the Stockholm Concert Hall, Stockholm, Sweden, Thursday, Dec. 10, 2009.

(AP Photo/Scanpix/Pontus Lundahl/Pool)

history by being the first woman to receive the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences, sharing it with fellow American Oliver Williamson for their work in economic governance. That prize is not one of the original Nobels, but was created in 1968 in Nobel's memory by the Swedish central bank.

Americans Elizabeth H. Blackburn, 61, and Carol W. Greider, 48, shared the 2009 Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine with countryman Jack W. Szostak for their work in solving the mystery of how chromosomes protect themselves from degrading when cells divide.

Professor Rune Toftgard, a member of the Nobel Assembly at the Karolinska Institute, said the trio's work has raised hope that new therapies can be developed to fight cancer.

“You have solved a long-standing and fundamental problem in biology,” he said. The chemistry award was shared by 70-year-old Ada Yonath of Israel and Americans Venkatraman Ramakrishnan and Thomas Steitz for their atom-by-atom description of ribosomes, the protein-making machinery within cells. Their research is being used to develop new antibiotics. □



President and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Barack Obama, left, greets Norway's King Harald V at the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony at City Hall in Oslo, Thursday, Dec. 10, 2009.

(AP Photo/Odd Andersen)

Swedish company controls Nobel ceremony footage

By IAN MacDOUGALL, Associated Press Writer

OSLO — When President Barack Obama accepted his Nobel Peace Prize on Thursday, a single Swedish company controlled the dissemination of his words.

Obama's speech was recorded exclusively by Norwegian national television and distributed by Nobel Media AB, a company formed by the Sweden-based Nobel Foundation in 2004 to strengthen control over its intellectual property.

In previous years, independent media could record the first five minutes of the ceremony. Nobel Media did not allow that this year because, the company said, it would conflict with Obama's security requirements.

The limitations did not impede the distribution of Obama's speech: Media around the world could broadcast as much as they wanted live. But any outlet that wanted to play a recorded snippet was limited to a maximum of three minutes that had run consecutively and uninterrupted.

All footage was emblazoned with the Nobel Media logo.

Nobel Media also barred Web sites from live streaming of the ceremony, limiting live online coverage to the Nobel Foundation's Web site, nobelprize.org. □

Glance at 2009 Nobel Prize winners

By The Associated Press

The prestigious Nobel Prizes are awarded annually on Dec. 10 in twin ceremonies in Stockholm and Oslo. Here is a look at this year's winners and their work:

- Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine: Americans Elizabeth H. Blackburn, Carol W. Greider and Jack W. Szostak for discovering how chromosomes protect themselves as cells divide, work that has inspired experimental cancer therapies and may offer insights into aging.

- Nobel Prize in physics: Americans Charles K. Kao, Willard S. Boyle and George E. Smith. Kao was honored for discovering how to transmit light signals long distance through hair-thin glass fibers. Boyle and Smith received the prize for opening the door to digital cameras by inventing a sensor that turns light into electrical signals.

- Nobel Prize in chemistry: Americans Venkatraman Ramakrishnan and Thomas Steitz and Israel's Ada Yonath — the first woman to receive it since 1964 — for creating detailed blueprints of ribosomes, the protein-making machinery within cells. Their research is being used to develop new antibiotics.

- Nobel Prize in literature: Germany's Herta Mueller, a Romanian-born writer honored for work depicting life under the Iron Curtain.

- Nobel Peace Prize: President Barack Obama for “his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples.”

- The Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences: Americans Elinor Ostrom and Oliver Williamson for their work in economic governance. Ostrom was the first woman to win this prize since it was founded in 1968. □

New Lebanon Cabinet allows Hezbollah to keep arms



Parliament members congratulate Lebanon's Prime Minister Saad al-Hariri (C), Minister of Labor Boutros Harb (R) and Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Elias al-Murr (L) after Hariri's new government won a vote of confidence in parliament in downtown Beirut December 10, 2009.

REUTERS/Mohamed Azakir (LEBANON POLITICS)

By BASSEM MROUE,
Associated Press Writer

BEIRUT — The Lebanese parliament overwhelmingly approved a national unity government Thursday that will allow Hezbollah to keep its weapons, despite strong criticism from pro-Western lawmakers angry at the militant group's refusal to disarm.

The vote in parliament was a further indication that Hezbollah will continue to defy a U.N. resolution calling for it to give up its weapons, which include rockets that can reach deep into Israel.

It was also a sign that Hezbollah will continue to wield great political influence at the expense of pro-Western rivals with whom it shares seats in the Cabinet and parliament — and it will retain the military muscle to back it up.

"Why do some Lebanese have the right to have weapons while others don't?" asked Hezbollah critic Sami Gemayel of the right-wing Christian Phalange party. Elie Keyrouz of the right-wing Lebanese Forces group said Hezbollah's weapons "no longer have any justification" after Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon in May 2000, which ended 18 years of occupation.

Despite that sentiment, shared by many in parliament's pro-Western majority, the 128-member assembly approved

the new Cabinet by a vote of the session. 122 to 1 with one abstention. Hezbollah says it has Only 124 lawmakers attended thousands of rockets and

Kidnappers in threat to kill French hostage

by Abdel Moneim Abu Edries Ali

KHARTOUM (AFP) — A group claiming to have kidnapped three French citizens in Chad and the Central African Republic threatened on Thursday to kill one of the hostages if Paris fails to start negotiations within a week.

"We met (Thursday) and have decided that if in one week France doesn't agree to negotiate with us, we will kill one of the hostages we are holding," Abu Mohammed al-Rizeigi, spokesman for the kidnappers, told AFP by telephone.

"We will also target French forces in Chad and we will carry out assassinations against French diplomats," he said.

Rizeigi said the hostages were in Chad and in good health, but a Chadian official said later Thursday that neither the kidnappers nor their victims were in the country.

"We don't know who these people (the kidnappers) are and they are not even in Chad," he told AFP on condition of anonymity. The French embassy in Ndjamena declined to comment on the matter, saying it was being dealt with by Paris. A shadowy Darfur group calling itself Falcons for the Liberation of Africa has claimed the kidnappings of a French agronomist with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and two unidentified staff of relief agency Triangle in the Central African Republic (CAR).

On November 30, the group threatened it would kill the aid workers but did not specify a deadline.

"We want to negotiate directly with France, but France wants to negotiate through a third party like Chad. We reject that," Rizeigi told AFP at the time. "We're going to kill them because France is not negotiating directly with us."

In an interview with AFP last month, ICRC worker Laurent Maurice, who was kidnapped in a Chadian village near the

missiles, some of which can hit far inside Israel, which says it is preparing to deploy a defense system to shoot down rockets from Lebanon.

A United Nations resolution that ended Hezbollah's 2006 war with Israel calls on the group to disarm, but Hezbollah says it must retain its weapons to fight off any future Israeli threat and persistent violations of Lebanon's airspace. Hezbollah says its weapons are needed until Israel fully withdraws from disputed border areas, including the Chebaa Farms.

Prime Minister Saad Hariri formed his 30-member Cabinet a month ago, and last week it permitted Hezbollah to remain armed under the new government's policy platform.

The Western-backed coalition,

headed by Hariri, holds a slight majority in parliament, but was forced to form a shaky coalition government with Hezbollah, which has virtual veto power over the government.

Hezbollah legislator Nawaf al-Moussawi asked those who criticized his group's weapons, "What is the alternative and how will the government face Israeli aerial violations?"

He cited news reports that on Independence Day last month, Israeli warplanes were flying over Beirut as senior officials were attending a military parade. "The whole state was there. What is your answer?" he asked.

Israeli warplanes fly over Lebanon almost daily in violation of U.N. resolutions□



Children reach towards a Red Cross volunteer at an orphanage in Abeche, Chad, in 2007. A group claiming to have kidnapped three French citizens in Chad and the Central African Republic threatened on Thursday to kill one of the hostages if Paris fails to start negotiations within a week.

(AFP/File/Karim Sahib)

Sudanese border, said he was bearing up despite the ordeal. The group also claimed responsibility for kidnapping two other aid workers, a Frenchwoman and a Canadian, earlier this year. They were held for 25 days before being released in April.

The motives of the group have been shadowy ever since that abduction, and it remains unclear whether the appeal for a change of France's policy is genuine or a cover for a ransom demand.

Paris has difficult relations with the Sudanese government as it hosts a leading Darfur rebel leader -- Abdel Wahid Nur -- and has troops across the border in both Chad and the CAR. Over the past three years, the armed groups in Darfur -- rebels and pro-government militias alike -- have splintered into two dozen separate factions, some of them with no clear political aims.

The ICRC has already said that it received a ransom demand for a second staff member, Gauthier Lefevre, who was abducted inside Sudan in November.

The spate of abductions has hit relief efforts in the region. Six organisations suspended their operations in eastern Chad after Maurice's kidnapping, depriving 37,000 people of aid□

Paraguay leader withdraws anti-terrorism bill

By PEDRO SERVIN,
Associated press Writer

ASUNCION, Paraguay – President Fernando Lugo withdrew a vaguely written anti-terrorism bill Thursday after critics complained it would give judges too much discretion to limit individual freedoms.

Paraguayan law already provides for a sentence of up to 30 years in prison for terrorist actions, and as written, the bill would have enabled judges to interpret “any kind of meeting between three or four people” as terrorist-related if the participants were seen to be instigating violence, said Sen. Carlos Filizzola, a supporter of Lugo’s government.

The senator noted the same bill was rejected when it was proposed to the previous Congress.

“The project should be rewritten to avoid enabling judges to jeopardize individual freedoms,” Filizzola said.

Opposition Sen. Marcelo Duarte of the Patria Querida party criticized the president’s decision. “Lugo is turning Paraguay into an unsafe country, and it proves that he cannot maintain a line of action as a leader,” Duarte said.

Meanwhile, a Senate committee approved the draft of a separate bill that forbids families from using their assets to pay ransoms to kidnappers without government permission. The bill would give the state the responsibility of contacting and negotiating with kidnappers. Lawmakers have had one particular family in mind while debating the bills: Rancher Fidel Zavala hasn’t been heard from since he was kidnapped Oct. 15 from his property in the northern department of Concepcion. A group calling itself the Paraguayan People’s Army has demanded a \$5 million ransom for his return. □



Paraguay’s President Fernando Lugo, center, and Chile’s President Michelle Bachelet, left, review a honor guard in Santiago, Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2009. Lugo is on a one-day official visit to Chile.

(AP Photo/Roberto Candia)

De Palm Island

Totally Fun. Totally All-Inclusive

Unlimited Food & Beverage | Snorkeling | *Snuba | *Sea Trek Helmet Walk | Banana Boat Rides | Waterpark | Relaxation

Packages starting at **\$70,-**

Sea Trek Underwater Helmet Walk
Present ad to redeem
Reg price \$45 p.p

2 for 1



For more information visit De Palm Tours Activity Desk at your hotel or call 5824400

• By car, from downtown go 2 miles past the airport and follow signs on your right hand side

*surcharge apply

Attorneys ask court to dismiss Polanski sex case



Director Roman Polanski reacts during a news conference to present his musical 'Tanz der Vampire' ('Dance of the Vampires') in Oberhausen September 29, 2008.

REUTERS/Ina Fassbender

By LINDA DEUTSCH, AP Special Correspondent LOS ANGELES — Lawyers for Roman Polanski and his victim in a 32-year-old case joined forces Thursday to ask an appeals court to dismiss a sexual misconduct charge against the director in the interest of justice.

It was a surprise move in a lively hearing where appellate

justices peppered lawyers and a prosecutor with pointed questions, often interrupting their arguments to raise new issues.

Associate Justice Laurie Zelon asked the prosecutor why the district attorney's office had not investigated recent allegations of misconduct by a judge and prosecutor during Polanski's 1977 court

proceedings. Polanski was initially indicted on six felony counts, including rape by use of drugs, child molesting and sodomy. He later pleaded guilty to one count of unlawful sexual intercourse.

Polanski reached the plea deal in 1978, but was threatened by a judge with more prison time than previously agreed upon and fled to France before he was formally sentenced.

Polanski is now confined to house arrest in his Swiss chalet in the resort town of Gstaad, and his fate is in the hands of judges in two countries. He is fighting extradition.

Perluss, Zelon and Associate Justice Fred Woods also asked if Polanski could have sought appellate relief before taking the extreme measure of fleeing the country.

"There were a host of alternate remedies to fleeing because a bargain wasn't kept," Perluss said.

Attorney Chad Hummel, who represents Polanski, suggested the extent of judicial misconduct was not known at the time.

"It sends chills up your spine what the judge did," he said. "Would there have been available alternatives at the time? There should be a hearing on that."

If the justices don't dismiss the case, they should send it back to Superior Court Judge Peter Espinoza for a hearing to decide the dismissal question in Polanski's absence, Hummel said.

Asayama insisted such a hearing could not be held without the director's return because of the fugitive disentitlement doctrine, a 100-year-old law that denies hearings to fugitives unless they return. She said making an exception for Polanski would set a bad precedent.

"Do we want to send the message to other defendants that flight is an option?" she asked.

Attorney Lawrence Silver, who represents Polanski's victim Samantha Geimer argued for dismissal on grounds of a recently adopted law allowing victims to have a say in cases. Geimer has repeatedly said she wants the

proceedings.

"Doesn't the district attorney's office have an interest in finding out what happened here?" Zelon asked.

Deputy District Attorney Phyllis Asayama replied, "Yes, we are interested. But I'm not sure we have the proper agency to do this." She didn't elaborate.

Presiding Justice Dennis Perluss, acknowledging there was misconduct by the now deceased judge, also questioned Asayama about whether "the district attorney has an obligation to see that justice is served."

The California Second District Court of Appeal is being asked to decide if it should order a Superior Court judge to

consider dismissing the case without Polanski's attendance in court.

The justices did not immediately issue a ruling.

"He has to be here," Asayama said, "especially given he had options 30 years ago and he didn't use them."

Polanski, the director of such classic films as "Chinatown" and "Rosemary's Baby," has been a wanted man since he fled to France on the eve of sentencing in 1978 for having unlawful sexual intercourse with a 13-year-old girl.

He was accused of plying the teen with champagne and part of a Quaalude pill then raping her during a modeling shoot at Jack Nicholson's house in 1977. □



FILE - In this Sept. 13, 2009 file photo, singer Kanye West takes the microphone from singer Taylor Swift as she accepts the 'Best Female Video' award during the MTV Video Music Awards in New York.

(AP Photo/Jason DeCrow, file)

Billboard names Taylor, Kanye among year's best

NEW YORK — They gave us the most memorable music moment of 2009, so it's only fitting that Kanye West and Taylor Swift have been named the king and queen of the charts.

Billboard magazine named Swift the top female artist, while West was declared top male artist. But Swift trumps West overall. She was the top artist of the year, with Beyonce coming in second and Lady Gaga third.

Swift has a sophomore CD, "Fearless," that has sold more than 4.5 million copies.

West and Swift provided one of the most talked-about episodes of the year when West hijacked her MTV Video Music Awards acceptance speech.

Billboard runs its full list of the year's chart-toppers on Friday, as well as the decade's. □



An issue of Editor & Publisher is shown atop newspapers in New York, Thursday, Dec. 10, 2009. The journalism trade journal Editor & Publisher is shutting down after 108 years of publication.

(AP Photo/Dan Goodman)

Editor & Publisher closing after 108 years

By ANDREW VANACORE, AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — The Nielsen Co. is selling some of its most prominent trade journals — including The Hollywood Reporter and Billboard — and shutting down Editor & Publisher, which has chronicled the newspaper business for 108 years.

In all, Nielsen is selling eight titles to e5 Global Media LLC, a new company formed by private equity firm Pluribus Capital Management, and Guggenheim Partners, a financial services company. Nielsen said James Finkelstein, who founded Pluribus this year with George Green and Matthew Doull, will serve as e5's chairman.

Along with Editor & Publisher, the company is also shuttering the book review title Kirkus Reviews. The two publications have 18 employees combined. Nielsen would not reveal details about the financial performance of E&P or Kirkus.

Spokesman Gary Holmes said Nielsen is still reviewing its properties to make sure the company is focused on businesses with "the highest potential for growth."

Nielsen is keeping a handful of other media properties, including Contract Magazine and Progressive Grocer. □

JOLLY PIRATES \$10^{off}

SAIL, SNORKEL, SWIM & SWING!

DAILY 9:30-2pm \$55pp
Visit 3 Great sites
with BBQ, Open Bar,
Gear & Ropeswing!

AFTERNOON SNORKEL

DAILY 3-6pm only \$38pp
Shorter version of morning
cruise same stops Open
Bar, Gear & Ropeswing!

SUNSET SAIL

**Mon & Fri 5-7pm
only \$27pp**
Open Bar included
& Ropeswing!

Save \$10 per
couple / per coupon
for morning cruise.
Save \$5 per couple /
per coupon for
afternoon cruise.

586 8107/592 7858

Tickets available at Jolly Pirates Shop at MooMba Beach. Boarding at MooMba Beach- by the high rise hotels between Holiday Inn and Marriott Resorts. Offer not valid in combination with other discount offers. Valid for direct telephone reservations only - Present coupon upon boarding.

Stocks rise as trade deficit narrows in October

By SARA LEPRO
and TIM PARADIS,
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK — The stock market rose Thursday as an improvement in the nation's trade deficit offset a weaker-than-expected reading on jobs.

The Commerce Department said a surge in exports helped narrow the trade deficit in October to \$32.9 billion. Economists had been expecting an increase. The rise in exports was driven by a weaker dollar, which helps boost overseas demand for U.S. exports.

The increase in demand for U.S. exports for a sixth straight month signals that makers of autos, aircraft and industrial machinery as well as farmers are seeing increased demand overseas.

James Cox, managing partner at Harris Financial Group, said the increased demand for U.S. goods will help boost the nation's economy.

"These smaller trade balances are great news," Cox said. "Any time you have a small trade balance, that will really contribute greatly to GDP."

The trade figures helped offset mixed jobs numbers. The Labor Department

said the number of laid-off workers seeking jobless benefits rose more than expected last week to 474,000 after falling for five straight weeks, slightly higher than analysts were expecting. However the four-week average, which is less volatile, fell to the lowest level since September 2008.

The gains in stocks came even as the dollar rose. For months, stocks and the dollar have moved in the opposite direction. Record-low U.S. interest rates have pressured the dollar for much of this year, leading investors to buy assets like stocks and commodities that can earn better returns than cash.

In recent weeks, signs of improvement in the economy have brought expectations that the Federal Reserve might raise interest rates sooner than expected. That would strengthen the dollar.

In early afternoon trading, the Dow Jones industrial average rose 52.15, or 0.5 percent, to 10,389.20. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 5.47, or 0.5 percent, to 1,101.42, while the Nasdaq composite index rose 8.97, or 0.4 percent, to 2,192.70.

As the end of the year

approaches, investors have become more cautious in their trading, not wanting to lose the big gains they've made during the market's rally. The Standard & Poor's 500 index, which rose as much as 65 percent from its lows in March, has moved little over the past month.

Bond prices fell, pushing yields higher. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note rose to 3.48 percent from 3.44 percent late Wednesday.

Gold rose after a four-day slide, while oil fell 70 cents to \$69.97 a barrel at the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Two stocks rose for every one that fell on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 515.8



David O'Day, center, and fellow traders gather at the post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange that handles CIT Group, Thursday, Dec. 10, 2009. Shares of CIT Group are up sharply in their first day of trading after the lender emerged from bankruptcy protection.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

million shares compared with 504.6 million shares traded at the same point Wednesday.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 0.70, or 0.1 percent, to

598.73. Japan's Nikkei stock average fell 1.4 percent. Britain's FTSE 100 rose 0.8 percent, Germany's DAX index rose 1.1 percent, while France's CAC-40 rose 1.1 percent. □

Mike Pelletier Evangelistic Team

*Translators
will be used

* No tickets
needed

* Bring your
family



For more
information
please call
582-8855
or
567-2463

Cas di Cultura
Dec. 13 - 18
7:00 PM

www.missingpeace.org

Children's Meetings Will Be Held Each Night As Well



**"FAVI FUNDACION
CU VISION"**

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



New affair allegations surface against Tiger Woods



NEW YORK- Just when Tiger Woods thought his week couldn't get any worse, it has.

Celebrity magazine US Weekly is reporting that Woods conducted a long-term affair with a Los Angeles cocktail waitress, and claims to have the voice mail and text messages to prove it.

According to the magazine's website, Jaimee Grubbs, 24, says she began having a sexual relationship with Woods in Las Vegas in April 2007 and that it lasted 31 months — suggesting that the alleged relationship ended only recently.

US Weekly posted a voicemail on its website Wednesday morning, which the magazine claims is from a call Woods made to Grubbs on November 24, in which he suggests that his wife, Elin, might suspect he has been having an affair.

"Hey, it's Tiger," the voice on the recording says. "I need you to do me a huge favor. Can you please take your name off your phone? My wife went through my phone and may be calling you. So if you can, please take your

name off that.

Just have it as a number on the voicemail. You got to do this for me. Huge. Quickly. Bye." The world's top golfer has been caught in a media storm since an early morning car crash outside his home on November 27. The fallout from that incident has led to all manner of colorful allegations against Woods, with rumor and innuendo far outpacing facts and evidence. One such allegation, published by the National Enquirer, is that Woods had been having an affair with a New York hostess, Rachel Uchitel.

Woods has not addressed any specific accusation but released a statement in which he said rumors circulating about him and his family are false and unfounded. Uchitel has furiously denied the affair and hired an attorney.

In this case, Grubbs claims to have photos and 300 explicit text messages from Woods, who married Elin Nordegren, the mother of his two children, in 2004. Grubbs recently appeared on the VH1 show "Tool Academy." □

Golf legend Jack Nicklaus predicts public will forgive, forget Tiger Woods sex scandal

By Soraya Roberts
Corky Siemaszko
Daily News Writers

NEW YORK- Tiger Woods is where his wife wants him - under her thumb.

Contrary to reports that Elin Nordegren is packing her bags and taking the kids to Sweden, the former bikini model is sitting tight and determined to keep her family together, People magazine claims.

"Don't let the pretty blond thing fool you - she is tough," a source close to the family said. "She's a fighter, and I am sure she's fighting like hell right now, to keep her family intact, but also to make sure Tiger will always be haunted by this." Nordegren, 29, has made no public statements about the bevy of busty women linked to her husband.

But she knew he was a ladies' man when they tied the knot in 2004, friends said.

"Elin had talked to other golfers and their wives about Tiger's wild parties," a friend

told the magazine.

"When she asked Tiger about it, he said he would stop doing it. And she believed him. But he never did."

Now that the scandal has broken wide open, Woods, 33, has reassured his wife there are no more skeletons in his closet, People reports.

"Tiger has told Elin everything," a source said. "Nothing that's coming out now is a surprise. She knows what he has done, and they've had some long talks about it. They are getting everything out in the open."

Woods has reportedly offered his wife millions to keep her from splitting.

Friends told People that Nordegren has two more reasons for staying - their kids, Sam, 2, and Charlie, 10 months.

Nordegren is a "child of divorce" whose parents split when she was six and doesn't want to put her two kids through that ordeal, they said.

"That's not something she's likely going to want to do to Sam and Charlie," a close friend said. "She really believes in the importance of parents staying together."

Some sources in the People piece, which appears in print on Friday, say Nordegren had no clue Woods was cheating.

Others say she turned a blind to keep living in luxury.

Either way, Nordegren appears to have reconciled herself to the fact that Woods is "not perfect," People reports. "But he's a good father, and he wants to be a good husband, too," a source said.

In other developments, Woods got a shout-out of support from another legendary golfer, Jack Nicklaus. "He's a great athlete," Nicklaus said. "He'll figure it out." The Golden Bear said Woods' reported cheating is "none of my business" and predicted the scandal would soon die down. "Our public is pretty forgiving at times," Nicklaus said. □

Experience the Excitement...Feel like a Winner

OCCIDENTAL GRAND CASINO
ARUBA

WIN UP TO
\$2000

FREE BINGO
NIGHTLY 10:30 - 11:15

FREE SLOT Thursday's
TOURNAMENT \$500

Friday's RAFFLES \$300

Exciting Table
Games

Hot Slots
Live Music

Nightly Dinner
and Shows

Casino Opens 12:00 noon for Slots and 5:00 PM. for Table Games

We light up the stage every day of the week with
4 different and exuberant shows full of energy,
Exotic sexy dancers and a rocking sound.

Mondays

Las Vegas

Wednesdays

GREASE

Tuesdays

Caribe

Saturdays

Latin Explosion

Showtime: 9pm - Tickets: \$20 Available at the
Casino Cashier from 12 noon

Located at the Occidental Grand Hotel
J.E. Irausquin Blvd. #83, Palm Beach, Aruba - Tel: 586-9039

Red Sox discuss sending Lowell to Rangers

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - Series MVP Mike Lowell to the Texas Rangers. The Boston Red Sox are discussing a trade that would send 2007 World Series MVP Mike Lowell to the Texas Rangers. The 35-year-old was an All-Star four times from

Nationals trade Yankees top pick in Thursday's Rule 5 Draft

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - The New York Yankees acquired outfielder Jamie Hoffmann on Thursday, completing this week's trade that sent reliever Brian Bruney to Washington. The Nationals made Hoffmann the first pick in the winter meeting draft, then traded him to the Yankees. The draft is held for players with at least four years of pro ball who have been left off 40-man rosters.

Hoffmann made his major league debut last season, going 4-for-22 with one home run and seven RBIs for the Los Angeles Dodgers. He hit a combined .291 with 10 homers and 64 RBIs in Triple-A and Double-A.

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said Hoffmann will compete for the final roster spot for the World Series champions. The 25-year-old Hoffmann also was picked in the 2003 NHL draft by the Carolina Hurricanes.

"He's got a hockey mentality, a Minnesota kid," Cashman said. "A very athletic, hard-nosed outfielder."

"We'll see where it takes us. We feel he's got great makeup. He's got ability. We project him in the future as an everyday-type player," he said.

Hoffmann and Brett Gardner could be in the mix for the last spot as a reserve outfielder.

"Gardy's a pure center fielder with blazing speed. This guy, he's got some thump. He's a big boy,"

Cashman said.

Teams pay \$50,000 apiece for players in the Rule 5 draft. They must either remain on the major league 25-man roster or disabled list all season or be offered back to their original club for \$25,000.

After the Nationals took Hoffmann from the Dodgers' system, Pittsburgh drafted outfielder John Raynor from Florida. □

2002-07, hitting .324 with 21 homers and 120 RBIs in 2007. But he slumped to 73 RBIs in 2008 and 75 RBIs this year, hitting 17 homers each season. He was slowed by surgery in October 2008 to repair a torn labrum in his right hip and remove a bone spur on a thigh bone.

He is owed \$12 million in 2010, the final season of a \$37.5 million, three-year contract. Rangers general manager Jon Daniels said the team still are discussing the trade, which also would be subject to physicals. Boston would have to give Texas money to offset a portion of Lowell's salary. "Some of the reports of how

close it is might be a little bit overstated," Daniels said Thursday. "Both clubs are evaluating. I think the general parameters are understood and both clubs need to decide whether it's the right fit."

Texas has been one of the busier teams at the winter meetings. The Rangers traded pitcher Kevin Millwood and \$3 million to Baltimore for reliever Chris Ray on Wednesday night and acquired left-hander Ben Snyder from the Orioles on Thursday to complete the swap.

The Rangers replaced Millwood's spot in the rotation, reaching a

preliminary agreement with Rich Harden on a one-year contract that guarantees him \$7.5 million, a person familiar with the negotiations said. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the deal is not yet final.

By trading Lowell, the Red Sox would clear a spot at third base, freeing them to work out a deal with free agent Adrian Beltre, who was replaced in Seattle by Chone Figgins.

Money appears to be an issue in a Lowell trade.

"Both clubs know what's on the table and we'll continue to talk here and work through it," Daniels said.

ARUBA'S SIZZLING STEAKHOUSE WANTS TO CELEBRATE

ITS 100,000th VISITOR WITH YOU.

JOIN US FOR DINNER AND HAVE
THE CHANCE TO WIN 100,000
MARRIOTT REWARDS POINTS.

OFFER VALID NOVEMBER 27, 2009 - DECEMBER 18, 2009.

1 COUPON FOR EVERY \$50 SPENT - FESTIVE DRAWING ON DECEMBER 19th



LOCATED AT THE ARUBA MARRIOTT RESORT | 520.6600

101 L.G. SMITH BLVD

RESERVATIONS AT RUTHSCHRIS.COM OR BY CALLING DIRECT DAILY AFTER 1:00PM

THUNDER N LIGHTNING

THE AUDIO VISUAL PROVIDER

Tanki Flip 78, Oranjestad, Aruba, Tel: (297) 5875600 / Fax: (297) 5875601
 Haidy's Cel: (297) 5930747 / 9930747 • Harry's Cel: 5930086
haidybarena@hotmail.com / barenoharry@hotmail.com



Everton in talks to sign Donovan

LIVERPOOL, England (AP) -- Everton is in talks to sign Los Angeles Galaxy striker Landon Donovan on a short-term loan deal. A temporary move to the Premier League club would enable the United States international to retain match fitness before the World Cup starts in June. The new Major League Soccer

season begins in March. "Landon is a player David Moyes has identified as someone he would like to bring to the club," Everton chief executive Robert Elstone said Thursday. "We are working to make that happen and hope we can reach agreement soon with all the appropriate parties." Everton is 15th in the

20-team Premier League standings, just three points above the relegation zone. Donovan's Galaxy teammate, David Beckham, will also be out on loan in January for a second stint at AC Milan. While Donovan has an American record 42 goals in 120 internationals, he has struggled during three previous stints in Europe. He signed a six-year deal with Bayern Leverkusen at 16 in 1999, but didn't play a game in two years and was loaned to the San Jose Earthquakes of Major League Soccer in 2001. After four seasons in the MLS, he rejoined

Leverkusen in January 2005. He made nine appearances -- seven in the Bundesliga and two in the Champions League -- but just two of them were starts. Two months later, he returned to the MLS with the Galaxy. He made just five Bundesliga appearances and one German Cup appearance for Bayern Munich during a loan spell earlier this year. But he was selected as the best player on the U.S. team for a record-breaking sixth time in October after being instrumental in helping the Americans reach the 2010 World Cup and Confederations Cup final.

Robin Lopez Shatters Glass Door After Practice

PHOENIX- It hasn't been a great season so far for Robin Lopez. Before it even began, the Suns' backup big man suffered a broken bone in his foot, and missed the team's first 15 games. He's been back for the last seven, but is only averaging 10 minutes per game, and has barely contributed at all, while Phoenix has seen their record hit a 3-4 slide since his return. Some of the frustration that Lopez is experiencing spilled out onto the practice court on Wednesday, and the story goes like this: with the media present and head coach Alvin Gentry conducting an interview, Lopez was leaving the facility, but was upset at the fact that his team had just lost a game of 3-on-3. Lopez flung the door open so hard that the glass panes in it shattered, at which time Gentry stopped the interview to talk to Lopez. Gentry has said that Lopez will have to pay for the door to be repaired, and that he'll fine his player for the outburst.

And apparently, this isn't the first time that Lopez has been visibly angered at practice. But as far as we know, it is the first time that any inanimate objects were harmed in the process. □

Buccaneer Restaurant

Aruba's landmark for three decades, serving fresh delicious Seafood and International dishes with an aquarium view of Caribbean sea creatures in an underwater grotto setting



Gasparito 11 C.
Tel. 297-586-6172

Web: <http://buccaneeraruba.com/>
email: info@buccaneeraruba.com

BENLO CIGARS

Import & Export • We ship all over the world • Tel.: 5863555
 Located in the Arowak Garden, next to Salt & Pepper,
 Paparazzi and Tango Restaurant.

We are specialized in premium Cuban Cigars.
 Opening hours: Mon. - Sat. 8:30am - 11:00pm
 Sunday 9:00am - 11:00pm

Depending on purchase, we have discounts starting from 5% up to 20%.
 With purchase of \$20 or more 1 FREE CIGAR

Bring this coupon for your free Cuban Cigar!



PAM PAM

FINE AND EXOTIC DINING
 AT RECESSION-BUSTING PRICES!

4 COURSE
 MENU \$23.95
 FOR ONLY

WE NEVER CHARGE SALES TAX OR SERVICE CHARGE
 FOR RESERVATIONS CALL 5877710 OR 7483848
WWW.PAMPAMARUBA.COM | INFO@PAMPAMARUBA.COM
 LOCATED AT PERLE D'OR AT BOEGOEROEI 11-Z



"FAVI FUNDACION CU VISION"

Lakers roll to 10th straight win with big 4th

LOS ANGELES- (AP) Pau Gasol and the Los Angeles Lakers politely declined full credit for what they did to the Utah Jazz in the fourth quarter of the defending champions' 10th straight victory.

After all, holding an opponent to six points and two field goals in the final period of a formerly close game requires more than a little help from the flustered foes themselves.

Kobe Bryant scored 27 points, Gasol had 19 points and 12 rebounds, and the Lakers rolled off 19 consecutive points in the fourth quarter of their 13th straight win over the Jazz in Los Angeles, 101-77 Wednesday night.

Ron Artest scored 17 points for the Lakers, who improved to an NBA-best 17-3 by holding the Jazz to 2-for-18 shooting in a comically one-sided fourth quarter. After leading by just two points entering the

final period, Los Angeles held the Jazz scoreless for more than six minutes while getting points from five players.

"I guess there's a little bit of credit to ourselves, but they were really out of whack," Gasol said. "They didn't get the shots they got in the first three quarters. We got the momentum and just started putting plays together."

Deron Williams scored 17 points for the Jazz, who couldn't manage a field goal in the first 7:25 of the final period at Staples Center, where they haven't beaten the Lakers since Jan. 1, 2006, counting six losses in the past two playoffs.

Williams' jumper with 4:35 to play was the Jazz's first field goal of the period, and they didn't get another until C.J. Miles' basket in the final minute.

Utah committed nine turnovers in the fourth quarter, while the Lakers

made none.

Just how bad was it? On the 21st anniversary of Jerry Sloan's first day as Utah's head coach, he was more clinical than angry after the game - a sure sign of his greatest degree of disappointment.

"They came out and just destroyed us," Sloan said. "We were hanging in the ballgame, but that just shows you what a great team they have. ... We have to learn to stay within what we are trying to do. You can't go out and play street basketball against this team. They will annihilate you."

Los Angeles' winning streak is its longest in a single season since winning 10

straight in February 2008.

Bryant played after skipping the morning shootaround, telling the Lakers he was shaken up after a home-invasion robbery occurred in his family's gated community in Orange County last night, leading to a police standoff. Bryant then declined to speak to reporters after the game.

Andrew Bynum scored 14 points for Los Angeles, which forced two shot clock violations by the Jazz during that fourth quarter stretch while getting eight points from Jordan Farmar, the inconsistent backup guard.

"That was an amazing quarter," Lakers coach Phil

Jackson said. "We were able to apply some pressure, and they gave Deron a rest. They subsequently got tougher shots, 24-second violations, turnovers, and things happened for us. I think once that happened, it became like an avalanche." The Lakers are one game away from completing an undefeated six-game homestand, which concludes Friday with a visit from Minnesota. Los Angeles' lofty record is little surprise after an exceptionally generous schedule featuring 17 of its first 21 games at home, but the Lakers are on the road for all but nine of the following next 28 games. □



Buy Before You Board!

Shop At

Aeropuerto Internacional
Reina Beatrix
SHOPPING ARCADE

Liquor • Tobacco • Perfumes • Souvenirs • Delicatessen • Books & Magazines • Fashion • Sunglasses



TOYS FOR TOTS
Toys Pa Muchanan

Christmas time in Aruba.
Please donate one NEW GIFT to bring a smile on the face of a child.
The objective of "Toys Pa Muchanan" is to help less fortunate children in Aruba to experience the **Joy of Christmas.**

Donations are accepted from Now till December 15, 2009.

Your NEW Gift can be for a newborn to 16-year-olds (teenagers enjoy gift vouchers), no matter what value. Unwrapped Gifts can be dropped at: DA Drogist, Flora Market, Treasure Box Toy Store, TAO Toys or at

Coldwell Banker Aruba Realty Office
J.E. Irausquin Blvd. 12
(across from the Tamarijn Hotel)
Tel. 588-7781
www.coldwellbanker.aw

COLDWELL BANKER
ARUBA REALTY

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

IOC approves cycling changes, tennis mixed doubles



LAUSANNE, Switzerland — Olympic leaders made two roster changes Thursday for the 2012 London Games: Track cycling's signature endurance race is out and tennis mixed doubles is in.

The International Olympic Committee executive board agreed to a program of five men's and five women's track cycling events as part of a plan proposed by cycling's governing body. As a result, the Olympics will lose track cycling's 4,000-meter individual pursuit for men and 3,000-meter pursuit for women.

Cycling had seven track events for men and three for women at the 2008 Beijing Games. Thursday's changes were designed to make sure male and females compete in an equal number of events in London.

The number of women track cyclists in London will rise to 84, up from 35 in Beijing in 2008. Women will make up 45 percent of the total number

of Olympic track cyclists, compared with 19 percent in Beijing.

Mixed doubles was played at several Olympics from 1900 to 1924. The last gold medalists were Americans Richard Williams and Hazel Wightman in Paris in 1924. Tennis was dropped from the Olympics after 1924 but returned as a medal event in 1988 without mixed doubles.

The IOC said mixed doubles "will bring an added value to the Olympic program by providing another opportunity for men and women to compete together on the same field of play."

Dozens of current and former cyclists, including Lance Armstrong, have spoken out against dropping the individual pursuit. Among those affected are reigning 19-year-old world champion Taylor Phinney of the United States and two-time Olympic champion Bradley Wiggins of Britain.

IOC president Jacques Rogge

said the committee was following the recommendations of the sport's ruling body.

"It is the advice of the UCI that the new format would be more appealing," he said at a news conference. "Of course, the concerned riders regret that. This is perfectly understandable but the executive board of UCI considered the new format would be far more appealing."

"There is a general shift as you know from endurance events more to sprint events," he added. "That is a consideration being made by the experts of cycling, not the IOC."

Also eliminated are the men's and women's points races, and men's madison.

The new Olympic program includes men's and women's competition in individual sprint, team sprint, keirin, team pursuit and the five-race omnium event. The omnium combines performances in a 3-kilometer individual pursuit, 200-meter sprint, 1-kilometer time trial, 15-kilometer points race and 5-kilometer scratch race.

"The thing about today is, fortunately it wasn't a surprise," Phinney told The Associated Press. "We've had ample time to think about this decision and fight this decision. ... I'm not waiting for this day to come anymore. It's passed. I can move on."

Wiggins, who won the men's pursuit in Athens in 2004 and Beijing in 2008, will miss the chance to go for a third gold in the event in his home city.

"It's disappointing, but it's not something I can control or have an effect on," he said. "It would have been nice to have been back there and going for No. 3 in the individual. It's a bit drastic losing three endurance events and replacing it with something like the omnium which, in my opinion, is a poor event to watch. But it doesn't matter what we think. We're just the riders."

Reigning women's pursuit champion Rebecca Romero of Britain added: "I'm disappointed that the chance for me to defend my Olympic title has been taken away, especially at this late stage in the Olympiad only two years before Olympic qualification."

Rogge said the UCI had conducted "extensive" surveys that supported the changes.

"They are adamant that the new program is an improvement for cycling and especially that it will improve the audience and the popularity of the track events," he said. "You can always argue about one individual event. The individual event might be very popular in some countries where medals are won, but not necessarily in other countries where there are no riders of high quality."

"You have always to distinguish the big picture from any particular country where some heroes win a lot of medals,"

he said. "That does not reflect necessarily on the world view."

On the final day of a two-day meeting, the IOC board also ratified a proposal by the International Tennis Federation for inclusion of a 16-team mixed doubles competition in London, where the tournament will be played on grass at Wimbledon.

In August, the IOC said it wanted guarantees that top players in singles would be able to participate in mixed doubles. Outside of the Olympics, the top singles players rarely play doubles or mixed doubles.

Thursday's decision was welcomed by ITF president Francesco Ricci Bitti.

"We believe that this addition will make Olympic tennis a truly unique event, with top players having the opportunity to compete for their countries and the honor of an Olympic Medal in three distinct disciplines: singles, doubles and mixed doubles," he said. □

Lakers most valuable NBA franchise, Forbes says

NEW YORK (AP) -- The Los Angeles Lakers are the NBA's most valuable team, and 12 franchises lost money in the 2008-09 season, according to Forbes magazine.

In its annual listing of the value of NBA franchises, Forbes finds Lakers to be worth \$607 million, up 4 percent for the league champions. Second are the New York Knicks at \$586 million, but that is a 4 percent drop. The Knicks led the rankings for the four previous seasons.

The Chicago Bulls (\$511 million), Detroit Pistons (\$479 million) and Cleveland Cavaliers (\$476 million) round out the top five.

At the bottom of the 30-team rankings are the Milwaukee Bucks at \$254 million. The league average worth is \$367 million, down 4 percent, according to Forbes.

The teams losing money in the last 12 months are the Dallas Mavericks, Portland Trail Blazers, Orlando Magic, Atlanta Hawks, Sacramento Kings, Indiana Pacers, Charlotte Bobcats, New Jersey Nets, Minnesota Timberwolves, New Orleans Hornets, Memphis Grizzlies and Milwaukee Bucks.

Teams' average operating income was \$7.8 million, with the Lakers at the top with \$51.1 million, just ahead of the Bulls at \$51 million. Portland's value has increased the most, by 10 percent, while the Kings and Grizzlies each have dropped the most, by 13 percent. □

LOCAL

With Minister of Justice Arthur Dowers representing Aruba
Political Steering Group reaches agreement on all issues but one



DAWN BEACH--The year's final Political Steering Group (PSG) meeting was still in session up to around 1:30 yesterday morning, but well-placed sources close to the talks indicate that agreement was reached on all but one of the several issues on the agenda.

Page B3

Recognitions awarded at La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club



ORANJESTAD – A number of outstanding associates were recognized at the gala Christmas Party, at the Renaissance Convention Center.

Page B9

Aruba's Sizzling Steakhouse Delivers Grand Surprise To Loyal Guests Maria and

Gifford Andrew 100,000th Visitor Of Ruth's Chris Steak House



Ruth's Chris staff with Maria and Giff Andrew during honoring ceremony.

PALM BEACH – It was a night that will be remembered forever for Maria and Gifford Andrew from Waretown, New Jersey and their best friends Suzanne and Patrick Reilly from Orchard Park, New York. What was supposed to be a farewell dinner in Ruth's Chris Steak House celebrating their last night of their Aruba vacation, turned out to be a night full of surprises. The two lovely couples, both long time repeat visitors to Aruba as well as loyal guests of the Aruba Marriott, turned out to be the actual 100,000th visitor to Ruth's Chris Steak House on Wednesday December 9th.

Continued on Page B4



Giff and Maria Andrew with their 100,000th visitor plaque.

American Home Assurance Dedicates Calendar 2010 To The Beautiful Birds Of Aruba

'The man killed the bird; With the bird, he killed the song; With the song he killed himself.' An American Indian legend.

ORANJESTAD - American Home Assurance Company has again dedicated its calendar for the year 2010 to the cause of migratory birds in Aruba.

These birds need appropriate flora and fauna that attracts them here.

Continued on Page B6



Aruba at its very best

The Radisson offered the epitome of barefoot elegance to DMCs



PALM BEACH - Twinkling lights, flickering flames, shimmering crystal glasses, orchid centerpieces and a fabulous lounging area formed the décor of a very special evening on the beach of the

Radisson Resort last Sunday. Some thirty guests, all involved in Destination Management (DMCs) had been invited for a site inspection of the resort and spa, with a barefoot dinner following. Fernando



Mansur's inspired decorations on the beach received lots of compliments; the special dinner that followed a very funny denominational prayer by one of the organizers, was mouthwatering. The finale of



the evening was a breathtaking performance of local opera singer Nicole van Eer; it was the perfect end to a perfect December evening.

entrée was conch-stuffed filet mignon with the Aruban touch of funchi as accompaniment. Dessert was a short walk away to the lounging area on the beach, where cakes, petit fours and mouthwatering mousses were waiting to be sampled.

Dinner was a re-make of a presentation at the James Beard House, an institute dedicated to culinary excellence. Called Sunset over Aruba, the dinner showcased the exquisite intermingling of European and South American cuisine during its première on October 16, 2007. The first course was potato and leek soup with a dash of cactus essence, served in a slice of cactus; it was delicious, as was the following course, pumpkin pancakes with sea bass. The

Guests greatly enjoyed their barefootedness, the breeze and the fairy tale atmosphere on the incredible stretch of beach at the Radisson. With Mosaic Fabulous Event Planner Fernando Mansur, saxophone player Jean Paul, Josh Rasmijn on bongo's and DJ Jeroen all in top form, an evening like this is the best promotion imaginable for the island. Pabien to all. □



DANA'S

furniture & more



We gladly advice you how to decorate your dream home.

A great selection of carefully selected European quality furniture and textiles

Situatd accross from the Ling & Sons Supermarket

Schotlandstraat 43-3, Oranjestad

Phone: 583-0912

Opening hours:

Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 6pm



NOUGAT
LONDON

TWIN-SET
SIMONA BARBIERI

SAVE THE QUEEN!

LE GATTE JEANS

Michael Stars

ella moss

Jeanne

INFASHION

Situatd accross from the Ling & Sons Supermarket. Next to DANA'S furniture & more. Schotlandstraat 43-3, Oranjestad. For more info please call: 582-9499

Opening hours: Tue.-Sat. 1pm - 6pm

With Minister of Justice Arthur Dowers representing Aruba

Political Steering Group reaches agreement on all issues but one

DAWN BEACH--The year's final Political Steering Group (PSG) meeting was still in session up to around 1:30 yesterday morning, but well-placed sources close to the talks indicate that agreement was reached on all but one of the several issues on the agenda. While there was no clear indication about what was proving to be the thorny issue, the parties were still engaged in trying to find common ground. The sources said the issues on which agreement had been reached included the joint police force and the Brooks Tower Accord.

Representatives of the Netherlands, the Netherlands Antilles, Curaçao and St. Maarten governments participated in the PSG talks. Saba and Statia were also represented at the meeting. A Bonaire delegation also travelled to St. Maarten for the PSG meeting, but left before the meeting began about three hours later than originally scheduled.

Attending for the first time was Aruba, represented by its Justice Minister Arthur Dowers and his adviser Indra Duarte. Both were praised for attending. Leader of the St. Maarten delegation Constitutional Affairs Commissioner William Marlin had said earlier in the day that he had been "shocked out of his shoes" when he read in yesterday's issue of this newspaper about the intention of Public Health Minister Omayra Leeftang to plough 6.5 million guilders into a foundation to purchase medical equipment for a soon-to-be-dismantled Netherlands Antilles (NA). Marlin argued that it did not make much sense for more than six million guilders to be ploughed into a foundation for a country that was being dismantled.

"The Central Government does not have a hospital," he told The Daily Herald. He said developments such as this showed that St. Maarten was being treated unfairly.

"We feel that if the NA has a surplus of funds because of the debt cancellation that is ongoing by the Dutch government, St. Maarten should get its fair share of those funds and not that Central Government ministers will be playing Santa Claus

with it," Marlin said during a break last night.

Giving an indication of presentations made during the first part of the meeting, Marlin said the Dutch delegation also had acknowledged earlier promises made to help facilitate the dismantling process and had pledged to "get the ball rolling."

On the issue of transfer of responsibilities to St. Maarten, he said the Island Territory was being "short-changed tremendously" because the knowledge and infrastructure of the Netherlands Antilles were based primarily in Curaçao.

Constitutional Affairs Minister Roland Duncan had said on Tuesday that St. Maarten was unhappy with the snail's pace of the process to set up Central Government departments and offices here.

Yesterday's PSG, the final for this calendar year, was also a forum for the various delegations to give updates on the progress of the dismantling process.

Also on the agenda were discussions about the safety plan for the Netherlands Antilles and updates on improvements in immigration and the setting up of the Joint Court for the new entities in the Dutch Caribbean. Of concern to the St. Maarten delegation was the mentioning of improvements for Bon Futuro Prison in Curacao prison on yesterday's agenda, but no mention of the Pointe Blanche prison in St. Maarten.

"The question we would raise is: what about the improvement

of the prison in St. Maarten? In a preliminary discussion with the minister, they had indicated that there are plans ready for the expansion of the prison facilities in St. Maarten, but one of the challenges is the availability of land, so we will hear more of that [during the meeting]."

Regarding the joint court, Marlin said, parties were expected to broach the issue of start-up capital for the functioning of the new court of justice. He said that while an agreement was in place regarding Holland's debt takeover for the BES islands Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba, the discussion pertaining to Curaçao and St. Maarten was still to be finalised.

The division of assets and liabilities between Curaçao and St. Maarten was also expected to be addressed in the talks. "So far it has been an internal discussion between the islands," Marlin noted, adding that the Netherlands was now pushing to be included in these talks to represent the interest of the BES Islands.

"This is one of the points that I think will draw the most discussion and I don't see us getting out of that today [Wednesday], because St. Maarten does not think it's fair what is being done," he said alluding to the fact that the largest amounts of capital and physical infrastructure are based in Curaçao.

The issue of proposals for a joint police facility was one of the points Duncan had said on Tuesday would draw criticism from the Curaçao and St.



Maarten delegations. He had noted then that the Netherlands had been pushing for the police facility to become a separate police force, but Curaçao and St. Maarten were against this, as an agreement about the police facility was already in place. Wednesday's meeting, originally scheduled to start at 2:00pm, was pushed back to 3:00pm as parties had been onboard Oasis of the Seas. It eventually began around 5:00pm.

Leader of the Democratic Party (DP) Island Councilwoman Sarah Wescot-Williams was

a member of the St. Maarten delegation, which also included Commissioner Xavier Blackman and advisers Dennis Richardson and Eugene Holiday.

Representing the Dutch government were Dutch Minister of Interior Affairs and Kingdom Relations Dr. Guusje ter Horst and Dutch State Secretary for Kingdom Relations Ank Bijleveld-Schouten. Prime Minister Emily de Jongh-Elhage headed the Netherlands Antilles delegation, of which Duncan was also a member. □

MORE4LESS

Jeep & Car Rental

www.more4less-aruba.com

We Rent Harley Davidson

Jeep Wrangler start from	1 Day US\$ 85,00	3 Days US\$ 189,00
	1 Week US\$ 346,00	
Cars start from	3 Day US\$ 99,00	1 Week US\$ 180,00

ALL PRICES INCLUDE 3rd PART INSURANCE, FREE PICK-UP & DROP OFF - FREE MAP & MILEAGE

For Reservation: 588-7255 / 593-2864 / 593-3849

WACKY WAHOOS

PALM BEACH #33-A WWW.WACKYWAHOOS.COM

STEAK, SEAFOOD, B.B.Q. & FUN!

Ex-Hadicurari BBQ & Grill with the same owner's.
We do our own daily fishing so we serve the freshest seafood on the Island.

Very reasonable price, exciting menu and NO SERVICE CHARGE

Dinner from 5:30 - 10:00
Monday - Saturday

FRESH CATCH & SEAFOOD

We are located close to the High-rise hotel's at walking distance.

Call us for Catering Service and Private Party's etc.

RESERVATION SUGGESTED

TEL: 586-7333

Gifford Andrew 100,000th Visitor Of Ruth's Chris Steak House



Continued from Front Page B1

Welcomed by Marriott's General Manager Kevin Schwab, Hotel Manager Louella Brezovar, Director of F&B Steve Marra, Restaurant General Manager Eduard Renaud, Ruth's Chris Chef Charles Wagner and a group of servers and hostesses, the Andrews were caught completely by surprise. They were thanked for their loyalty

and support to the sizzling steakhouse, followed by a champagne toast in their honor. Maria and Gifford were handed a commemorative plaque and received a dinner for four 'on the house' at a decorated table.

Ruth's Chris Steak House opened its doors in February of 2008 as part of a \$50 million overhaul of the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino.

The famous steakhouse, with roots in New Orleans, is best known for its high service and quality levels, paired with great wines and steaks that are served sizzling hot.

With over 100,000 visitors enjoying dinner at Ruth's Chris in Aruba in nearly 22 months, the steakhouse has proven to be very successful with Arubans as well as visitors to the island. The celebrations of the 100,000th visitor will conclude with a VIP Reception on Saturday December 12th and a festive drawing of a lucky winner earning 100,000 Marriott Rewards points on December 19th. All visitors to Ruth's Chris will receive a coupon for every \$50 spent and can participate in this grand prize give-away. Promotion ends December 18th.

In the pictures: Ruth's Chris



staff and management, Andrew with their best friends Patrick and Suzanne Reilly, Marriott Executive Committee members and the 100,000 visitors Maria and Gifford honored as special guests for their loyalty and support. □



LOCATED AT THE HOLIDAY INN
SPORTS BOOK

No charge or tax on winnings
Live simulcast of all major tracks
Highest limits in Aruba
Sports Book opens at 12:30 pm
Only casino to televise all football games

POKER ROOM
EARLY BIRD SPECIAL
7 p.m.

TEXAS HOLD-EM
\$4-\$8 LIMIT

BUY-IN FOR \$30 RECEIVE \$60 IN CHIPS
MUST PLAY TWO (2) HOURS

Monday \$10 buy-in \$1,500 Guaranteed
Tuesday \$10 Buy-in \$1,500 Guaranteed
Wednesday \$10 Buy-in \$1,500 Guaranteed
Thursday \$10 Buy-in \$1,500 Guaranteed
Friday \$10 Buy-in \$1,500 Guaranteed
Saturday \$25 Buy-in
Sunday \$10 buy-in \$1,500 Guaranteed
(Tournaments are subject to charge as per Management criteria)

BLACKJACK
Only Casino in Aruba
Where dealer stands on
Soft 17
CRAPS
3 - 4- 5 Times Odds

The Promenade Restaurant

L.G. Smith Blvd. 160 (near the low rise Hotels)

Family owned with an European and Local touch
come and enjoy our famous

All-You-Can-Eat Bite size a la carte menu

For one Price!
You get to choose and eat as much as you can

Some of our Trademark Dishes are
Stuffed local fish, Escargots the best in town, Seafood Promenade, Mushroom in a crust, Keshi Yena, Fillet Mignon, Smoked Salmon, Stuffed Avocado, Shrimp fritters, Beef Carpaccio choice of caesar salads and many more. Dessert, Coffee and tea are included.

Closed on Mondays

For reservation call Tel: 583-8899

L.G. Smith Blvd. 160 (Traffic Lights by Divi Divi Tamarijn Hotel)



The Fischers love Aruba Malibu Suites



ORANJESTAD — After visiting Aruba for more than 17 years consecutively and



enjoying every minute of it, the are recognized by the owner of the Malibu Suites. Patricia and Robert Fischer are distinguished guests of Aruba and have been loyal guests of the Malibu Suites at Stadionweg 19 for the past 5 years.

Owners Robert and Yamilec Thiel together

with their daughter Helen enjoy hosting the Fischers coming to the island year after year for vacation on Aruba. They are thankful for the kind friendship and continued relationship.

See you again next year and warm regards from the Thiel family at the Malibu Suites! □



JUST SAY NO TO DRUGS

Aruba TODAY

QUALITY POOLS N.V.

WITH OVER 15 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE. QUALITY POOLS N.V. OFFERS QUALITY SWIMMING POOL CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATIONS, REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE SERVICE, BACKED UP BY OUR PROFESSIONALS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 587-2741 OR 563-69276

-mail: Qualitypools@hotmail.com
Website: <http://qualitypoolsconstruction.info>

Shop & Go

Food & Liquor Store

NIGHT SHOPPING UNTIL 10:30PM

Cold Beer prices ranges from \$2.
Souvenirs a wide variety of snacks.
Also available Rums made in Aruba at a good price.
T-Shirt at \$4. / Aruba bags \$8.

COLD WINE VARIETY

Bring this Ad & receive a FREE gift with any purches of \$25.

OPEN DAILY	Monday-Friday	8:30am - 10:30pm
	Saturday	9:00am - 10:30pm
	Sunday	9:00am - 9:00pm

We're located at walking distance from the High Rise Area.
You can get your basic food & drink.

LOCATED AT: 186-D PALM BEACH (next to Dominos Pizza)
Tel: 586-1710 • email: shopngo@setarnet.aw

American Home Assurance Dedicates Calendar 2010 To The Beautiful Birds Of Aruba



Continued from Page B1

Reckless destruction of our natural beauty in the name of development can harm these beautiful birds as well. That's why American Home Assurance has consciously repeated this theme for the second year now.

Although hard to imagine, all these birds have been shot in Aruba by Greg Peterson, an amateur photographer born and raised in San Nicholas.

Hon'ble President of parliament Mr. Andy Lee was presented the very first copy of the calendar as a salute to Aruba's varied flora and fauna. Hon'ble Mr. Andy Lee emphasized the need to preserve the rich variety of our natural beauty for our future generations.

Prakash Gupta, managing



director of the company explained that 1,000 copies of calendars have been donated to Red cross as their support to this voluntary organization. Also he invites the customers of the Company to pass liberally at its office at Sun Plaza and get their copy of this unique calendar. In case they can not make it to the office, just call the Company and they will have it posted to you. Calendars will also be made available to the dealing insurance brokers and bankers. □



SCHEDULE FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 10 - DECEMBER 16

*matinee: saturday & sunday | late show: friday and saturday

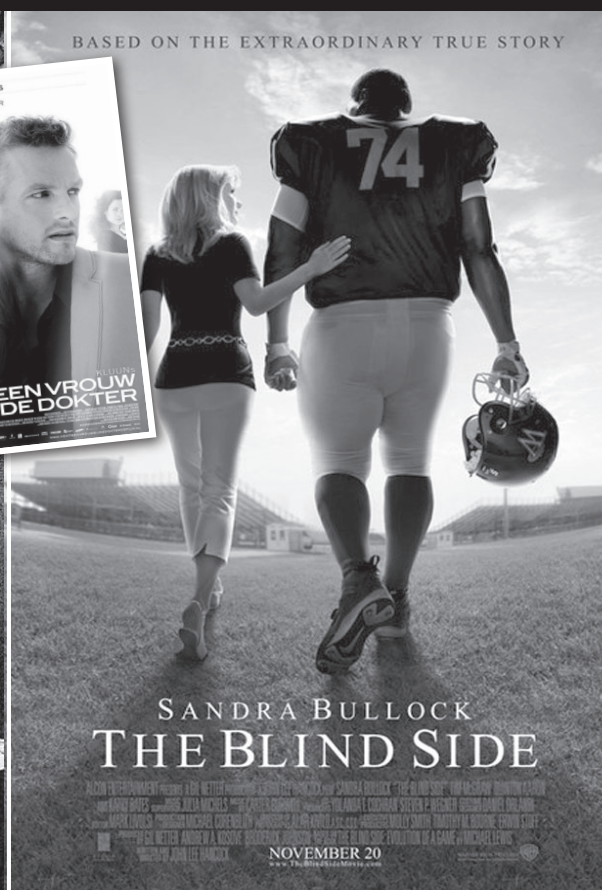
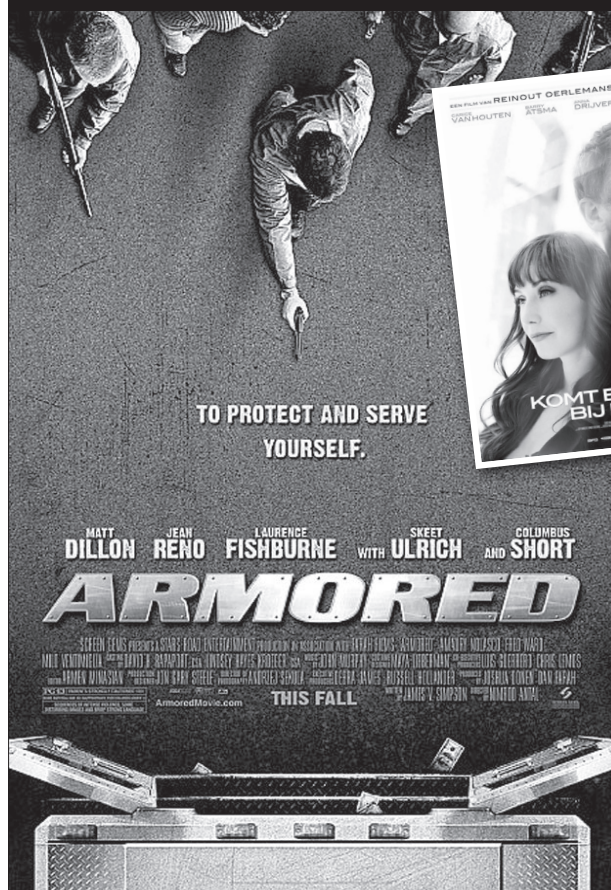
AT RENAISSANCE - ORANJESTAD

R	THE BLIND SIDE				NEW
	daily:	5:45	8:30		
	matinee:	12:00	2:45	late show:	11:30
G	THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG				
	daily:	4:45			
	matinee:	12:15	2:30	late show:	
R	PRECIOUS				
	daily:	7:00	9:30		
	matinee:		late show:	12:00	
R	NINJA ASSASSIN				
	daily:	4:00	6:30	8:45	
	matinee:	1:30	late show:	11:00	
PG	OLD DOGS				
	daily:	4:15	6:15	8:15	10:15
	matinee:	12:15	2:15	late show:	12:15
PG-13	2012				
	daily:	4:15	7:45		
	matinee:	12:45	late show:	11:15	
PG-13	THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON				
	daily:	6:00	9:00		
	matinee:	12:15	3:00	late show:	11:45

AT PASEO HERENCIA

R	KOMT EEN VROUW BIJ DE DOKTER				NEW
	daily:	7:00	9:30		
	matinee:		late show:	12:00	
PG	ARMORED				NEW
	daily:	5:30	7:45	9:45	
	matinee:	1:00	3:15	late show:	12:00
PG-13	THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON				
	daily:	5:45	8:45		
	matinee:	12:00	3:00	late show:	11:45
G	THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG				
	daily:	4:45			
	matinee:	12:15	2:30	late show:	
PG-13	2012				
	daily:	4:30	8:00		
	matinee:	1:00	late show:	11:30	
PG-13	A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D				3D
	daily:	4:45			
	matinee:	12:15	2:30	late show:	
PG-13	EVERYBODY'S FINE				
	daily:	4:30	6:45	9:00	
	matinee:	12:00	2:15	late show:	11:15
R	PARANORMAL ACTIVITY				
	daily:	7:00	9:30		
	matinee:		late show:	11:45	

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.THECINEMAS.AW





MENU ITEMS

Burgers, Pizzas, Salads
Sandwiches, Wraps
Wings & Calamari

HAPPY HOUR

Every day from:
5 - 6 pm

OPENING HOURS

Daily 9 am - 12 am

WEBSITE

WWW.BUGALOE.COM

THE COOLEST PLACE TO BE IS BUGALOE! Fun and happiness at popular beach bar

PALM BEACH - There is only one Bugaloe on Aruba: it is the hottest place to be cool and the coolest place to be hot.

Friends and fun are the main ingredients at the beach bar, but **great food**, drinks and music get a good second place. The sunsets, the breeze and the turquoise ocean are right at the top as well, of course.

People from all over the world get together at Bugaloe: they have a few drinks, a bite to eat, they dance and sway and make new friends. If you have gotten curious here and now, check out the website www.bugaloe.com and you will see at one place what we are talking about. No words will be needed anymore. Surf to the website for the Bugaloe Event Calendar or leave a note in the Guestbook.



Bugaloe is located at De Palm Pier in Palm Beach between RIU Palace and Radisson Resort.

Bugaloe's daily Happy Hours are considered the starting signal for an evening of **partying** on the island. Locals mingle with visitors and raise their glasses. When you get hungry, order a scrumptious burger, a gourmet pizza, tasty wings or a salad and party on.

The night is young, the world is going crazy and you are right in the middle of a super happening. What's not to like?

The **live bands** Joyride and PM Band are playing the stars from the sky every

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. On Sunday there will always be a **top act** by Tsunami, Robert Jeand'or, Abstract Dawn or Marisela & Aquarius. These musical talents draw the crowds. For more information go to www.bugaloe.com.

LIVE MUSIC @ BUGALOE

Tuesday 6-9pm: JOYRIDE

Wednesday 7-11pm: PM Band

Friday 6-10pm: PM Band

Sunday 6-10pm: Tsunami, Robert Jeand'or, Abstract Dawn or Marisela & Aquarius

J. E. Irausquin Blvd 79 at De Palm Pier • Tel: (297) 5862233 • Website: www.bugaloe.com • Email: info@bugaloe.com

Live Music & Entertainment tonight at Casa Tua Barcelona



ORANJESTAD - As of this week our Flamenco Show will be extended with the performance of Kavey Yarzagaray. This Flamenco guitar player will perform together with Angela Croes on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Enjoy your Paella and Sangria together with this fantastic live show! The downtown atmosphere is cool and relaxed with its in- and outside seating. The highlight at Casa Tua Barcelona is also the new lunch specials every weekday from Monday till Friday! A **\$9.95 lunch special**; Beef tenderloin with a red wine sauce or choose the Grouper Fillet for \$11.95. Both dishes include a soft drink. Fresh Fish lovers can treat the palate to the Whole Red



Snapper, served with Rice and a salad for \$19.95. For entertainment, Casa Tua Barcelona offers rhythms of salsa & bolero & Cha Cha Cha performed by a live band every Saturday Nights! El Latin Son will perform tonight!!

All days of the week we serve Cold and Hot tapas as appetizers or the delicious Iberian Ham Pata Negra which we import directly from Andalucía. As your main course you could choose our Paella, traditionally prepared on the spot by our chef! Combine this Spanish dish with our home-made sangria to complete your dinner.

Of course we saved the best for last as no one does an ending better than Casa Tua with their dreamy Tiramisu. If you're into something different we suggest tasting the Espresso Martini Cocktail as dessert, you won't be disappointed.

The best part about such a good ending is that it guarantees you'll be back for more...



Casa Tua Barcelona Downtown open from 11.30am to 10.30pm, Sunday from 5pm to 11pm tel. 588 5695. **Casa Tua Palm Beach** open from 5pm to 11pm, tel 586 8470

Aruba conquers Beach Volleyball



ORANJESTAD - Last Volleyball Team from Holland weekend the Pro Beach had their tournament with



the winners Richard Schuil (voted best player of the world in 2009) and Reinder Nummerdor (voted best defender in the world in 2009).

The professional players visited the children of the Reina Beatrix School last Thursday.

A total of 120 children, both girls and boys, were under the supervision of the Director of the School Reina Beatrix Mr. Louis Bernoski. The world's top players of Team Beach Holland enjoyed teaching the students the basics of the game.

This was a unique opportunity for athletes and youth to be together to bring order and more youth sports was made possible through the good relations between the technical director of the NeVoBo, Bert Goedkoop and Idefre Instructor Mr. Igmara Ogenia.

Last Sunday it was decided spontaneously bring to the



youth of the Reina Beatrix school to the Beach Volleyball located next to the Diva / Tamarijn Resort, to enjoy a sports day on the beach.

The Aruban people were very impressed by the broad 2.00 meter players and coaches of Beach Team from Holland.

This initiative was made possible by the cooperation between the Aruban Tourism Authority and the Dutch sports marketing agency Free Time Promotion. This is hopefully a start for more sport stimulation projects in the future between the parties.

The Dutch athletes will

continue their training early next week in Aruba.

Their lasting two weeks internship training on Aruba will be concluded on Sunday with a tournament where there will be a top demonstration.

The tournament starts at 14:00 and will last until approximately 18:00. The games are free to attend and promise to be an exciting and spectacular show case for young and old who love beach volleyball.

Divi / Tamarijn Resort will provide a musical setting and also food & beverage on site



Cleo's
Sports Bar & Grill

Open daily 6pm to 2am
with Happy Hour from 6 to 8pm



Alhambra
CASINO
ARUBA
A DIVI RESORTS PROPERTY

Celebrating 25 years as Aruba's place to play!

FREE Shirt Friday!

Get a FREE Alhambra T-Shirt when
you earn 500 points today with your
Alhambra Advantage Card!

Alhambra cap may be substituted for t-shirt.

TOMORROW

Don't miss Super Bingo Saturday!
\$1,000 in CASH PRIZES & Progressive Bingo!

Table games open at 6pm with \$3.00 Blackjack daily!

Open daily 10am to 4am • J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 • 583.5000 • www.alhambracasino.com

Must be an Alhambra Advantage member. All programs and promotions are subject to change or cancellation without notice.

Recognitions awarded at La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club



the award included Most Mentioned Associate, Chennet "Stephen" Estivern and Most Overall Mentioned Department which was the Food & Beverage Department. Jessica called the honorees forward and awarded them

individual and group prizes. Best Smile went to Zoraida Lints. Associates Mildred Clemencia, Rocio Velasquez, Kirk Lovelace, Gretaine Joans, Angelico Tromp, Ingrid Croes, Denys Pesrozo and Aristobulo

Montoya were applauded for Perfect Attendance for 15 years or more.

Carine Cratz, Jeanette Brooks, Giovanni Britten, Helen Werleman, Rita Maduro, Ena Vrolijk, Maritza Odor of the resort's Social Events Committee, were thanked for a wealth of activities they organized. Anthony Henriquez, Emanuel Antonio, Bonny Naranjo, Glenda Willems, Damian Tromp, Aristibulo Montoya, Marlyn de Oliviera, Michael da Costa and Martin Ras of the

Eagle Team, were recognized for their contributions to the Associate Opinion Survey. Frank Delano Sabajo, Jeanette Brooks, Nilda Echobardo, Naisa Nurse, Aichel Lynch, Ismael Valdez, Maureen Kelly, Lindoro Vera, Edgar Garcia of the Green & Health Team, were lauded for their many activities and the Newsletter Committee, Mildred Clemencia, Rina Maduro, Aichel Lynch, Maritza Odor and Jessica Franken, was cited for reporting on it all. Special Recognition went also to Willie and Fran.

As Associate of the Year, Giovanni Britten, Accounting Department, with runner up Bonny Naranjo, F&B Department & Hilario Geerman, Engineering Department, were the three top performers. Also mentioned for outstanding delivery Yves Andre, Engineering, Vicente Guerrero, F&B, Edgar Garcia, Engineering, Murlaine Quandt, Kitchen, Angelo Brooks, Kitchen, Catherine Martinez,

Activities, Linda Mitchell, PBX & Rafael Marquez, Housekeeping.

Giovanni was recognized as a friendly, caring coach, who always goes the extra mile for associates and guests.

Supervisor of the year Clara Acevedo, Housekeeping Department was picked for her commitment, loyalty and creativity as the resort flower arrangement person. Runner ups Rodrigo Garcia, Kitchen & Glenda Brokke, PBX, also received individual recognitions.

Manager of the Year Nilda Echobardo, also winner of this year's Shoco Award, described as a perfectionist, a loyal, honest, and committed leader in the Housekeeping Department, and her runner up Greta de Cuba, rounded up the line up of winners.

Pictured here images of the celebration as honorees receive their much deserved praise from General Manager Joe Najjar and the executive committee. □



MPG
REAL ESTATE

With you every step of the way!

Ocean View Estate

4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Newly-built with custom materials from Spain & Italy. Gourmet kitchen. Open terrace overlooking pool and backyard perfect for island entertaining.



Muna Habash

tel (+297) 593 4647

muna@mpgaruba.com • www.mpgaruba.com

1000 m2 of property land

Price: \$1.3 million

Mr Jazz Brings in the Season at Amazonia Churrascaria



PALM BEACH – The staff of Mr Jazz with General Manager Ruud Steenhuisen and owner Dan Oduber enjoyed the hospitality of Amazonia Churrascaria for a pre-holiday celebration, just before the big seasonal rush.

The crew of Mr Jazz serving Cuban-American cuisine at Paseo Herencia, enjoyed their visit to the Brazilian steakhouse and savored its South American culinary tradition, especially the Brazilian picanha, expertly carved table-side, offered by the friendly servers, paired with most-enjoyable Caipirinhas, signature Brazilian drinks made of raw rum, sugar and lime. □



ARUHIBA THE 1 AND ONLY HOMEMADE ARUBAN CIGAR

SOLEDAD 14-A, NOORD • TEL: (297) 593-6177 • arubacigar@hotmail.com

ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petroochi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba.

Petroochi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petroochi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petroochi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars. The company sells international cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open on Sunday from 9am to 8pm. And also at Tamarijn Hotel open from 8am to 1pm. Aruhiba is only available in above mentioned stores. Visit our authentic tobacco farm where cigars are handmade.



BUY & RECEIVE ONE ARUBAN CIGAR FREE WITH THIS FLYER

Aruba TODAY
Don't drink & DRIVE

St. Maarten's forward thinking praised at inaugural ceremony

POINTE BLANCHE--St. Maarten is the only port in the Dutch Kingdom capable of accommodating Oasis of the Seas, the world's largest cruise ship – an accomplishment that was praised by partners in the cruise industry and highlighted by government officials during the ship's inaugural call here Wednesday.

Deputy Leader of Government and Harbour Affairs Commissioner Theo Heyliger, speaking at the reception held aboard the ship, thanked former Leader of Government Island Councilwoman Sarah Wescot-Williams and present Leader of Government Commissioner William Marlin for "putting their trust" in him and ensuring

unanimous approval for the harbour expansion projects over the years. "Who said we all can't work together?" he asked.

Among those in attendance were Netherlands Antilles Prime Minister Emily de Jongh-Elhage, Dutch Minister of Interior Affairs and Kingdom Relations

Guusje ter Horst, Dutch State Secretary for Interior Affairs and Kingdom Relations Ank Bijleveld-Schouten, Lt. Governor Franklyn Richards, members of the Island and Executive Councils, and several representatives of the private sector.

The arrival of Oasis of the Seas in St. Maarten is a compliment to the hard work of St. Maarten people, who have now made the island the first in the Dutch Kingdom with a harbour that can accommodate the world's largest ship, Heyliger said. Rotterdam, with the largest container, gravel and fuel ports, is no longer the only one with firsts in the Kingdom, he added.

As St. Maarten strives to become a country, it must show that it can take care of itself, and the strides made at Dr. A.C. Wathey Cruise and Cargo Facilities have proven that this is possible, the commissioner said. "I hope the change to country status is on the right track, because St. Maarten is on the right track already."

He also commended Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd. for its continued partnership with St. Maarten and presented key players from the company as well as government representatives of all levels of the Kingdom with plaques to mark the historic occasion. A similar plaque presentation was made by the ship's officials to local players.

Marlin said the island looked forward to many more visits from Oasis of the Seas and thanked Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd. for "bringing the Titanic of the 21st century to St. Maarten."

Tourism Commissioner Frans Richardson said that many other countries wanted to have Oasis of the Seas visit their ports, but St. Maarten was one of the few prepared and ready for the large vessel. He lobbied for tours of school children to be allowed aboard the ship so they could see this marvel of the world.

St. Maarten Harbour Group of Companies CEO Mark Mingo said cruise ships kept coming to St. Maarten because the passenger experience

continued to be good and because of the quality of St. Maarten as a destination.

"St. Maarten has again played a leading role in the industry [with the berthing of Oasis of the Seas]," Mingo said, pointing out that the first Royal Caribbean ship to visit St. Maarten had been Song of Norway with 750 passengers, 39 years ago. Today, the island can receive Oasis of the Seas with a capacity of 5,400 passengers. The ship will be in port every Wednesday for the rest of the high season and will be joined by sister ship Allure of the Seas in November 2010.

"A little city will be pulling into port [of St. Maarten] every week," Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd. Senior Vice President of Land Operations Craig Milan said at the plaque exchange ceremony held aboard the ship.

Working with St. Maarten on Genesis Project, as Oasis of the Seas was code-named, had been a good experience, Milan said. "St. Maarten was the easiest port to work with by far. Commissioner Theo Heyliger really makes things happen. The island partners with the [cruise] industry and then takes the ball and runs with it."

Security screening took place on the pier for the first time, in newly-built and movable security buildings, the purpose of which is to process passengers faster when they head back to the ship. "This is the gold standard in security-checking," Milan said, adding that the same system was used in St. Thomas when the ship was in port there Tuesday. This pioneering system is expected to migrate to other ports in the coming years.

St. Maarten has benefited from tremendous and continued growth in the cruise industry since 1990s, thanks to the government's commitment to developing the destination. However, the private sector also has a role to play in balancing the benefits for the island, said Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd. Vice President of Government Relations for the Caribbean, Latin America and Asia Mike Ronan. □

Main Akeem Lake murder suspect is facing 18 years

PHILIPSBURG--The Akeem Lake murder trial, which had been postponed on several occasions, continued Wednesday with the Prosecutor requesting eighteen years for the main suspect and nine and seven years for his accessories.

The three-hour hearing ended with a violent incident in which one suspect beat another to the floor inside the Courthouse. Police officials had to support a groggy C.R.B. (28) into the police van after he was punched by co-suspect G.N.E. (25).

It was not the first time C.R.B. had been beaten by fellow detainees. Since his detention, he had been threatened and mistreated in prison on several occasions. This had led to his transfer from St. Maarten to Bon Futuro Prison in Curaçao, where he was also mistreated.

According to Prosecutor Jan Bart Develing, there was no doubt that G.N.E. had cold-bloodedly murdered Akeem Lake (14) by gunfire in Dutch Quarter on June 18, 2008. Lake sustained four gunshot wounds just five days before his 15th birthday.

Develing requested a severe 18-year punishment for the shooter. "In general sentences in the Netherlands Antilles are considerably lower than elsewhere in the Caribbean. I want to prevent foreign criminal organisations from starting operations here." G.N.E. admitted to the crime, stating he had gone into a rage and had sought revenge after he found out that his girlfriend had been robbed of US \$13,000 in savings.

According to the Prosecutor, fellow suspect A.A.G. (18) had pointed at Lake as being the perpetrator of the robbery. Urged on by three of his friends, G.N.E. had been looking for Lake in Dutch Quarter. The car they were driving in allegedly was chauffeured by C.R.B.

For their roles, the Prosecutor requested seven years for A.A.G. and nine years for C.R.B. Attorney-at-law Remco Stomp said G.N.E. had been "frustrated" after he learned his girlfriend had been robbed. "He wanted the money back and wanted to do something for his helpless girlfriend." The lawyer added

that his client had had no notion of Lake's tender age.

Stomp disagreed with the murder charge and pleaded for the lesser count of manslaughter. C.R.B. vehemently denied he had had anything to do with the incident. He said he had been framed because the other suspects were covering up for a friend of theirs, whom they tried to keep out of jail because he was fathering two children.

"It was easy to point at my client, an illegal resident from St. Kitts," his lawyer Zylena Bary said Wednesday. She dismissed the statements against her client as "untrustworthy."

Bary said the Prosecutor's case against her client should be declared inadmissible because her client initially had not been detained as a murder suspect, but because he was an illegal resident.

The lawyer doubted whether her client could be convicted on charges of accessory to murder. "Should my client go for murder because one person [G.N.E.] flipped?"

Psychological reports cited the sad histories of the three suspects. A.A.G., who had been roaming the streets from the age of 15, had been "tugged along in useless violence," it was said.

G.N.E. dropped out of school after sixth grade. He smoked marijuana on a daily basis from the age of 16. His mother kicked him out of the house when he was 19.

To shed more light on the state of affairs among St. Maarten's youth, Milton Peters College social worker Beryl Berkel was heard as an expert witness by G.N.E.'s legal representative. Berkel painted an image of neglect, abuse and harassment among St. Maarten's youth, who take their feuds out on the streets.

Attorney Geert Hatzmann said his client A.A.G. had become involved by accident and had not played a major role. "A suspended sentence would be most suitable," Hatzmann said, adding, "We should be happy that in contrast with other Caribbean nations our administration of justice could still be considered civilised." □

**MARIOTT OCEAN CLUB****Platinum**

1BD \$16K OV

2BD \$23k OV

2 BD \$38K Oceanfront

Gold

1BD \$9700

2BD \$15K

MARIOTT SURF CLUB**Platinum**

GV \$19k

OV \$22k

OS \$24.5k

OF \$39k

Presidents Week

Oceanfront \$40k

Gold

GV \$12k

OV \$14k

OS \$16k

OF \$22k

ARUBA BEACH CLUB

(Available for sale or rent)

Studio wk 50, \$4,500

CASA DEL MAR

(Available for sale or rent)

1 bd wk 36, \$4,900

Ambassador

LAQUINTA BEACH RESORT

(Available for sale or rent)

1 bd wk 37, \$3,000

1 bd wk 47, \$3,500

PARADISE BEACH VILLAS

(Available for sale or rent)

2 bd wk 52, \$13,995

2 bd wk 1, \$12,995

2 bd wk 2, \$12,995

2 bd wk 3, \$12,995

2 bd wk 4, \$11,995

**Contact our
Aruba
Representative
594 3140 or
592-8401**

**aruba.sales.rentals
@hotmail.com**



Classified

Bon Dia Aruba Weststraat 22 - Tel:5827800 - Fax:5827044**FOR SALE BY OWNER**

186827

LA CABANA

b/r below mkt \$

wk 35 Studio Rm 305 fri \$2600

wk 49 1 br Rm 105C fri 3100

wk 50 1br Rm 208C sun 3100

all + mf (offer units awaib)

phone 586-1000 Rm 142

until 12/13

**Aruba Home Minders**

www.arubahomeminders.com

Call us at 733-HOME (4663)

"Your Peace of Mind in Paradise"Offering you
The Ultimate Home Minding:

Rental

Property Management

Concierge Service

Rentals from \$ 90.00 p/day

Sales from \$85,000

Home Minding Service

as low as \$59.00 per month



Major sale on Real Estate!!!!
Huge reduction for one week only!
Palma Real Condos, several available.
SAVE \$40,000 - \$50,000 each!

- 2 bedroom condo with probably the best view in the community. Mint condition.
Was \$269,000 **Sale \$ 219,000**

- 2 Bedroom Villa/townhouse, Mint condition, small private yard, great location.
Was \$289,000 **Sale \$249,000!!!**

- **Luxury homes, SAVE \$190,000 each!**

Fabulous near to beach 5 Bdr 5 Ba townhouse, private pool, fabulous location! Two houses to beach fabulous location
Was \$869,000 **Sale \$679,000!!!**

- Tierra del Sol Mesa Vista 3 bedroom expanded villa, private pool, stone patio, etc!
Was \$869,000 **Sale \$679,000**

Commercial and Investment properties SAVE \$150,000 each!

- Prime 5 Fam. apartment building in great location. Modern large apartments, easy rentals. Great cash flow.
Was \$699,000 **Sale \$549,000**

- Prime huge 2 story commercial building in heart of town. Lots of parking available, great visibility, able to divide into smaller spaces.
Was \$699,000 **Sale \$549,000**

- **Investment packages** consisting of holding companies plus rental real estate. Each package contains 2 properties. Several available.
Save over \$100,000!!!!

- **SAVE \$ 100,000 on Bakval Villa**

Huge 6 bedroom home in FABULOUS Location! Huge living room & kitchen. Pool and decking. To car garage. Walk to Marriott & Beaches.
Was \$ 565,000 **Sale \$ 465,000**

"Furniture available for sale on most of the properties, ask for pricing"
These prices are firm. Contract and deposits must be given on or before

December 10. Closings should take place within 45 days. Many of these properties had previous discounts and these discounts are on top of those!! This is a special subsidized promotion, and will expire on December 10, 2009. All properties are currently managed by Aruba Villa Rentals, Aruba's most prestigious Rental agency. All residential properties qualify to continue in their program if you like.

For more information call **586-3630 or 586-4290**

HUMAN HINTS

Potential Pitfalls of Becoming Self-Aware

Life doesn't always seem like a joyous occasion, especially when we're on the road to enlightenment. Becoming fully self-aware means seeing all of your self, including the parts of your self that you never knew were there. Seeing your own automatic expressions can be disconcerting, but it can also provide huge opportunities for personal growth.

Becoming self-aware also means becoming aware of the possible repercussions our decisions, actions and inactions have on our life and the lives of those around us. We realize that we can't take even the slightest thing for granted, and life can quickly become unbearably serious if we don't lighten up.

We learn to manage the unavoidable conclusion by releasing control over our affect on others. At a certain point, we simply can't think about it. We have to make a decision and go with it.

This is easy with every day decisions like what you're having for dinner or taking time to help a co-worker.

From your Spirit's point of view, the actual decision you make doesn't matter at all, but from your Body's perspective, the choice is the only thing that matters. In every moment of our lives, we must balance what we consider to be important decisions, with those that we feel really don't matter one way or another. Your power lies at the point where you find that balance.

We all express subtle behavior that is unconscious and automatic. We are constantly sending and receiving signals beyond our conscious perception. When we gain the ability to see the signals we send, it can be both frightening and enlightening.

First we must get over the initial embarrassment of seeing our own behavior. Once we accept who we have been, we can begin to transform into who we want to be. Accepting and forgiving your past behavior allows you to focus on how to act differently in the future. The next time a similar situation arises, you can approach it with a different energy.

If it is an emotional issue, it might be very hard to step out of your old pattern. It might be a real challenge to remember that you intend to be different. It might take many tries to get it right, but life will never run out of growth opportunities.

When you successfully grow past a situation, new challenges will arise. Like all things, it will take practice. It might be very difficult at first, but we will gain confidence with each successful experience of overcoming our past and transforming our future.

Until Tomorrow...

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

HumanHints.com, PO Box 997, Vail, CO 81658
Copyright HumanHints. All Rights Reserved. ☐

Classified

Bon Dia Aruba Weststraat 22 - Tel:5827800 - Fax:5827044

ARUBA VACATION PARK
Safest and exclusive
Vacation park
With automatic barrier
own swimming pool
FOR RENT
By week, month or year
fully furnished, wifi internet
Apartments VILLAS
Starting at US \$ 703 p/week
Now you can BUY
your own VILLA or
Condominium on Aruba
Designs are ready
So please contact us for more
Information
tel. 585 0550
www.arubavacationpark.com

FOR SALE BY OWNER
186816
Renaissance Suites
1 Br wk 48 Rm 2311 P.O./V
\$5.000
1 Br wk 48 Rm 2310 G.V.
\$4.000
Call owner at Playa Linda
04/12-20/12
Rm 444 586-1000

FOR SALE BY OWNER
BEST OFFER
Divi Phoenix 2 Bdrm wk 48 (Unit 416) \$10,000
Divi Village Studio wk 49 \$4,800
Aruba Beach Club 1 Bdrm wk 49 (Unit 205 \$5,900)
La Cabana 1Bdrm wk 19 \$3,000
Please call cell 748-6838 (until 12/12)
781-760-7071 after 12/12/09
186803

Timeshares For Sale
Playa Linda Beach Resort

Wk 47	std	205	\$5,000	2nd FI Pool/O
Wk 48	2bdrm	118	\$13,500	1st FI Ocean F
Wk 48	1bdrm	643	\$10,500	6th FI Ocean
Wk 49	Std	110	\$6,000	1st FI Garden
Wk 50	2bdrm	412	\$15,500	4th FI Ocean
Wk 50	Std	204	\$5,500	2nd FI Ocean
Wk 50	1bdrm	234	\$8,500	2nd FI Pool/O
Wk 1	1bdrm	346	\$16,000	3rd FI Pool/O
Wk 1	2bdrm	352	\$35,000	3rd FI Pool /O
Wk 1	Std	501	\$14,000	5th FI Pool /O
Wk 2	2 bdrm	117	\$31,500	1st FI O/F/P
Wk 2	1bdrm	L48	\$16,000	Grand FI

For more info, Please call
297-741-4243 Fax US # 425-660-2309 or
E-mail
Info@playalindasales.com

Why pay more for Timeshare!
When the best cost less at
Playa Linda Beach Resort
Sales and Resales Office.
Now selling below
market price.
Weeks 18-50
Studios as low as \$6,000
1 bdm as low as \$8,500
2 bdm as low as \$17,000
CALL TODAY
Ph: 5861000
ext 595, 592, 859
Fax: 5861043
E-mail: info@playalindasales.com
Office Hours: Mon-Fri from
9.30 am - 4.30 pm
For other weeks,
please call for price info.

MASSAGES
Is this your looking for?
The best massagistas
in the island offers
services massage sport,
swedish, reflexology
full body, services men,
woman couples
close to high rice
E-mail:
relaxandfullbody@gmail.com
for appointment cel:563-1723

FOR SALE
186624
Gold Coast Villas
2 Bedroom/ 3 Bath Colorado
Secure Premium Corner Unit
Brand New,
Fully Furnished,
Great View, Many Upgrades
730-6402
USA 516-330-9060
arubadawn@msn.com

HOUSES FOR RENT
Walk to beach!
Huge 5 bedroom, 5 bath villa on
fabulous location, vaulted ceilings,
modern kitchen with granite
Countertops. Big patio and pool
US\$865,000 financing guaranteed.
Tel: 586-4290 Cell 593-4462
e-mail: info@arubavillarentals.com
90405

FOR SALE
TIME-SHARE RESALES

RENAISSANCE SUITES				
1BR	WK 42	ROOM 2308	G.V.	\$ 3.500
1BR	WK 46	ROOM 2142	H.V	\$ 5.000
1BR DLX	WK 49	ROOM 2349	O.F.	\$ 8.000
RIU PALACE				
2BR	WK 45	ROOM 359/360	P.O.	\$ 14.000
1BR	WK 46	ROOM 544	P.O.	\$ 5.000
1BR	WK 47	ROOM 172	O.F.	\$ 9.000
2BR	WK 50	ROOM 546/548	P.O.	\$ 12.000
ARUBAN RESORT				
2BR	WK 49 - 50	ROOM 1552	P.V.	\$ 7.000 PW
1BR	WK 49 - 50	ROOM 1515	P.V.	\$ 6.000 PW
MARRIOTT SURF CLUB				
2BR	WK 18 - 50	GOLD	G.V.	\$ 12.000
2BR	WK 18 - 50	GOLD	O.V.	\$ 14.000
2BR	WK 18 - 50	GOLD	O.S.	\$ 18.000
MARRIOTT OCEAN CLUB				
2BR		GOLD	O.V.	\$ 15.000
COSTA LINDA BEACH RESORT				
2BR	WK 50/51	ROOM 3007	P.O.	\$ 60.000
2BR	WK 50	ROOM 3005	P.O.	\$ 17.000
2BR	WK 46	ROOM 3002	P.O.	\$ 12.500
2BR	WK 47	ROOM 2009	P.O.	\$ 12.500
DIVI PHOENIX				
1BR	WK 45	ROOM 307	P.O.	\$ 6.500
1BR	WK 48	ROOM 207	P.O.	\$ 6.000
1BR	WK 4	ROOM 1001	O.V.	\$ 6.000
LA CABANA BEACH & RAQUET CLUB				
1BR	WK 46 & 47	ROOM 330C	P.O.	\$ 5.000 PW
STU	WK 47	ROOM 404B	P.O.	\$ 4.500
STU	WK 47	ROOM 237B	O.V.	\$ 4.000
1BR	WK 48	ROOM 112C	P.O.	\$ 5.000
OCCIDENTAL RESORT				
OPTIONAL ALL INCLUSIVE				
1BR DLX	WK 18 & 50		O.V.	\$ 10.000
1BR SP	WK 45 & 46 OR FLOATING WK 18 & 50			\$ 30.000
2BR	WK 18-26 / 36-50 ALL INCLUSIVE			\$ 20.000
3BR	WK 18-50	O.F.		\$ 30.000 PW
STU	WK 18-50	O.V. MANDATORY ALL INCLUSIVE		\$ 8.500
PARADISE BEACH VILLAS				
1BR	WK 49	ROOM 101	P.O.	\$ 6.000
1BR	WK 50	ROOM 101	P.O.	\$ 6.000
1BR	WK 50	ROOM 306	G.V.	\$ 6.000

For more info: 737-3000
E-mail: johnnypaesch@yahoo.com

Dokter na Warda
ORANJESTAD
SAN NICOLAAS

Botica na warda
Oranjestad:
Botica Dakota
San Nicolaas:
Police
No. di Polis 581-1100
Oranjestad 582-4000
Noord 587-0009
Sta. Cruz 585-4710
Savaneta 584-7000
San Nicolas 584-5000

Emergency Numbers
Emergencia 911
Polis 100
Brandweer 115
Brandweer II 582-1108
Tipline di Polis 11141
Hospital 587-4300

Oranjestad
Ambulance 582-1234
Warda Polis 582-4000
BGD Oranjestad 582-8877

San Nicolas
Ambulance 584-5050
Warda Polis 584-5000
BGD San Nicolas 584-1606
Valero Security 584-1720

Services
Elmar 583-3000
Informacion 118
Kadaster 582-1311
Serlimar 584-6456
Setar 582-5151
Taxi 582-2116
Web 585-4600
Voogdijraad 582-1262
Taxi- Tas 587-5900
Bureau Sostenemi 588-1010
Profesional Taxi 588-0035
Taxi D.T.S. 587-2300

Cruise Ship
11 Maasdam
11 Ruby Princess
12 Sea Cloud II
14 Crystal Serenity
14 Ocean Dream

Funeraria's
AD Patres 584-2299
Del Pueblo 582-5622
Mementomori 583-3358
Zepp Wever 582-1612

Foundation Fellowship Clinic
Tel: 584-6440
Alcoholism & Drug Addiction,
Anonymity guaranteed
Fundacion Anti-Droga
Aruba (FADA) Tel: 583-2999
Fundacion Respetami
Tel: 582-4433
Fundacion Diabetico
Arubano
Tel: 583-3808
Narcotics Anonymous
Tel: 583-8989
Fundacion Amor pa
Prohimo
Tel: 583-3354 / 586-6976
Fundacion Hende Muher
den dificultad
Tel: 583-5400

Una noche de velitas multicultural en El Parque del Agradecimiento



ORANJESTAD - La Asociación Amigos de Colombia-ASOCOL- dió inicio a esta temporada festiva con una actividad navideño multicultural en la noche del sábado 05 de diciembre en el parque del agradecimiento con la noche de las Velitas.

El grupo musical de gaita de Aruba "Nos cu Nos" dio inicio a la noche cultural realizando la entrada oficial del evento nocturno en el Parque del Agradecimiento, que se convirtió en el parque cultural internacional en la gran Noche de las velitas.

Un mensajero de la paz como el Dr. Giovanni Arends, en una abierta convocatoria de unidad y paz entre los miembros de la comunidad en Aruba. La exhibición de niños que se integran al país de recepción demostrado en el "Vals de Aruba" ésta notoria evidencia "El Currulao", baile de la costa del pacifico colombiano representado en vivo por Amparito "La Diva"; el "Merengue ripiao", exhibido por la comunidad de la República Dominicana. Un agraciado baile "Arabesco" o un connotado y celebre "Michael Jackson" que enterneció a jóvenes y adultos con su música de los 80.

"La Choclatito" Vanessa, endulzó con su coreografía a los niños, así como una notoria representación de arte con Fredy Montoya; y la también espectacular presentación de "Ysabel", quien demostró sus cualidades ancestrales del Perú, con el baile de la "Marinera Norteña", exhibiéndose con un maravilloso y sorprendente vestido multicolor autóctono del Perú; bordado con sus pavos reales, impactando a los asistentes que le solicitaron un baile adicional propia de la lejana y añorada tierra del "Dios Sipán"; La Chiclayanita y su pareja recibieron un alto reconocimiento como forjadores de su cultura y folklore bien representados a su país ... el Perú.

Hubo reconocimientos



institucionales a representantes de emisoras locales por su apoyo al evento Cultural de las velitas, a la Institución del Señor de los Milagros por su loable participación en los últimos años.

Una noche de velitas en el parque del agradecimiento que tuvo muchos colaboradores con ASOCOL, la presencia de invitados diplomáticos consulares, canales de Televisión, entre los que se notó a "TELECARIBE" cadena televisiva de Colombia, filmando cada uno de los detalles de las actividades; entre las que se contó ésta vez

con la animación del conocido "Conde" Alberto Morel, quien se sumó a la participación e integración multicultural de las diferentes comunidades en Aruba.

Una actividad cultural de las Velitas, que se convierte en evento participativo Internacional y que las diferentes comunidades demuestran su riqueza y folklore típico de su país; cada vez mejor dejando la huella indeleble de su participación en Aruba. Gracias ASOCOL, por su iniciativa cultural internacional en la gran Noche de las Velitas. □



Brasil dice “inaceptable” condicionar salida Zelaya de embajada

SAO PAULO (Reuters) - El canciller de Brasil dijo el jueves que era “inaceptable” poner condiciones a la salida del derrocado presidente de Honduras, Manuel Zelaya, de su embajada en Tegucigalpa y consideró que Estados Unidos estaría frustrado por el fallido intento del día previo.

El Gobierno de facto hondureño accedió a dar un salvoconducto a Zelaya para que saliera como asilado del Gobierno mexicano, en lugar de como huésped distinguido como pretendía hacerlo.

“Imponer condiciones es una cosa totalmente inaceptable”, dijo el canciller brasileño, Celso Amorim, en un programa de la radio estatal. Zelaya, sobre quien pesan órdenes de arresto, fue depuesto en junio y expulsado de su país por militares, pero retornó a Honduras secretamente en septiembre y se refugió en la embajada brasileña en calidad de huésped. Muchos países, incluyendo Brasil, desconocieron las elecciones presidenciales realizadas



El canciller de Brasil Celso Amorim (foto) dijo el jueves que era ‘inaceptable’ poner condiciones a la salida del derrocado presidente de Honduras, Manuel Zelaya, de su embajada en Tegucigalpa y consideró que Estados Unidos estaría frustrado por el fallido intento del día previo. El Gobierno de facto hondureño accedió a dar un salvoconducto a Zelaya para que saliera como asilado del Gobierno mexicano, en lugar de como huésped distinguido como pretendía hacerlo. REUTERS/Denis Balibouse/Archivo

el 29 de noviembre en Honduras porque no había sido previamente reinstalado

Zelaya.

Estados Unidos, que había condenado el golpe de Estado e impulsado negociaciones para la restitución del depuesto mandatario, las reconocieron sin embargo junto a otros.

“Creo que debe ser una frustración muy grande para los Estados Unidos, cuya diplomacia se envolvió incluso más que la nuestra”, dijo Amorim por el fracasado intento de salida de Zelaya hacia México.

“Esa frustración proviene del hecho de haber sido excesivamente tolerante con un gobierno golpista”, agregó.

Amorim dijo que Brasil no tiene intención de reconocer los comicios hondureños “en el corto plazo” y que “nos interesa mucho, sí, que el presidente Zelaya pueda salir con seguridad, que nuestra embajada no sea de manera alguna atacada”. □

CEPAL ve alza PIB A.Latina 4,1 pct en 2010

SANTIAGO (Reuters) - La economía de América Latina podría crecer un 4,1 por ciento en el 2010, tras una contracción este año por la crisis global, apoyada en un mayor dinamismo de Brasil, dijo el jueves la CEPAL. La proyección de la Comisión Económica para América Latina y El Caribe (CEPAL) contrasta con una esperada caída de un 1,8 por ciento que tendría la región este año.

“Lo peor de la crisis ha quedado atrás. Los motores del crecimiento ya se encendieron nuevamente, pero no se sabe cuánto nos durará el combustible”, dijo Alicia Bárcena, secretaria ejecutiva de CEPAL, en un comunicado.

El dinamismo del 2010 estaría liderado por Brasil, la mayor economía de la región, que crecería un 5,5 por ciento, tras una expansión de un 0,3 por ciento este año, estimó la CEPAL. El organismo dependiente de las Naciones Unidas pronosticó una recuperación del PIB de México a un crecimiento de un 3,5 por ciento el 2010, luego de que este año su economía se desplomaría un 6,7 por ciento. □

Colombia prohíbe tenencia y consumo de dosis mínima de droga

BOGOTA (Reuters) - Colombia, después de cinco intentos fallidos y en contravía de la tendencia internacional, aprobó una ley que prohíbe la tenencia y consumo de dosis mínimas de sustancias estupefacientes o psicotrópicas, informó el jueves el Gobierno. La reforma a la Constitución, que se convirtió en los últimos años en una obsesión personal del presidente Alvaro Uribe, establece que sólo se permitirá la tenencia y el consumo de dosis mínimas de drogas si existe una prescripción médica.

El Gobierno justificó la ley con el argumento de que no tiene coherencia exigir una lucha frontal contra el narcotráfico y facilitar el consumo de drogas.

“Hemos dado un paso histórico en la lucha contra el narcotráfico, la producción y, especialmente, el consumo de droga”, dijo el ministro del Interior y de Justicia, Fabio Valencia, después de la aprobación de la norma el miércoles a la medianoche.

Pese a la aprobación de la ley, el Gobierno aclaró que no se busca castigar criminalmente el porte y consumo de drogas, pero sí a los distribuidores. El senador del Partido Liberal Juan Manuel Galán dijo que con la medida

Colombia va en contravía de la tendencia mundial que “privilegia la prevención sobre el prohibicionismo”.

El acto legislativo que aprobó el Congreso en ocho debates modificó un fallo de la Corte Constitucional que despenalizó el consumo y tenencia de sustancias psicoactivas desde 1994. La reforma considera al adicto como un enfermo y el Estado se responsabiliza de su rehabilitación y el apoyo a su familia.

Hasta ahora la legislación de Colombia permitía la tenencia de hasta 20 gramos de marihuana y un gramo de cocaína para consumo personal. Para el Gobierno de Colombia el consumo de drogas ha aumentado y se ha convertido en un problema prioritario de salud pública para el país. El ex candidato presidencial del izquierdista Polo Democrático Alternativo Carlos Gaviria consideró la decisión del Congreso como un retroceso. “Retrocedimos de manera significativa. Es un proyecto antitécnico porque en el derecho penal no hay prohibiciones, hay conductas punibles”, dijo Gaviria, quien fue magistrado de la Corte Constitucional cuando el tribunal despenalizó la tenencia y consumo de la dosis mínima de drogas. □



VARIETY IS THE SPICE OF LIFE

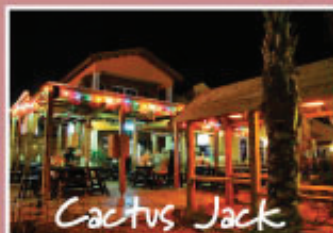


A variety of experiences. A consistent approach to quality and service.

Whether you prefer hamburgers or caviar, the beach or downtown, there is a ARUBA WINE and DINE associates member for you.

Choose from ten participating establishments offering something for everyone. From fine-dining excellence to family-fun and Tapas. Or enjoy a charcoal grilled dinner, or experience a fresh catch of the day, brought in by the local fishermen. Relax with a barefoot dinner on the beach, or go all out starting your evening downtown, for nightlife and salsa dancing and finish your evening with a caribbean cocktail by moonlight!

Check out the ARUBA WINE AND DINE Associates at
www.arubawineanddine.com



Cactus Jack (at the Village across Radisson - Palm Beach)
International Cuisine
Phone: 586-7592
Dinner: Rotisserie Chicken
BBQ Ribs & Steaks from the Grill
An outdoor restaurant, great prices! & cold beers!
Open from 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm
7 days a week
www.cactusjackaruba.com



Fishes & More (at Arawak Garden, High Rise Hotels)
Caribbean International and Delicious Fresh Seafood
Phone: 586-3659
Dinner, Bar and Live Music on the outdoor terrace
Open from 4:00 pm - 11:00 pm
7 days a week
www.fishesandmore.com



Tango Argentine Grill (at Arawak Garden, High Rise Hotels)
International Cuisine and Charcoal Grill
Phone: 586-8600
Dinner and Daily Live Music.
World famous Argentine beef prepared on open charcoal grill.
Open from 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm
7 days a week
www.tangoaruba.com



Salt & Pepper (at Arawak Garden, High Rise Hotels)
International Cuisine and Tapas
Phone: 586-3280
Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.
Daily Live music by local artists and bands on our large terrace.
Open from 7:00 am - 01:00 am
7 days a week
www.saltandpepperaruba.com



MooMba Beach (between Holiday Inn & Marriott Surf Club)
International Cuisine
Phone: 586-5365
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and Daily Live Music.
Enjoy dinner by torch light... barefoot on the beach.
Open from 7:00 am - 11:00 pm
Bar open from 10:00 am - 01:00 am
www.moombabeach.com



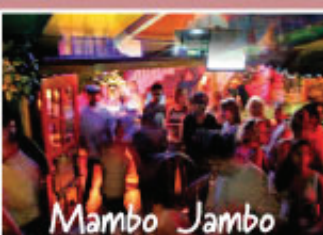
Café the Plaza (at Renaissance Marketplace, Downtown)
International Cuisine
Phone: 583-8826
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and Daily Live music.
A Dutch style restaurant with moderate prices
Open from 10:00 am - 01:00 am
7 days a week
www.cafetheplaza.com



Sopranos Piano Bar (at Arawak Garden, High Rise Hotels)
Bar with Live Entertainment
Phone: 586-8622
Extensive Cocktail menu.
Daily live music, request your favorite songs and sing along!
Open from 5:00 pm - 01:00 am
7 days a week
www.sopranospianobar.com



Chino Latino (at the Village across Radisson - Palm Beach)
Asian & Latin Cuisine
"where food means fun"
Phone: 586-6380
Dinner and after dinner snacks
DJ's - bands - dancing
Restaurant & Bar open from 5:00 pm - 2:00 am
7 days a week
www.chinolatinoaruba.com



Mambo Jambo Latin Bar & Grill (Royal Plaza Downtown)
International & Latin Cuisine
Phone: 583-3632
Lunch, Dinner, Live Bands, Salsa Dancing, Great food and good music 7 days a week.
Restaurant open from 11:00 am - 09:00 pm, Bar open from 11:00 am - 04:00 am
www.mambojamboaruba.com



Hadicurari Restaurant (between MooMba Beach and Marriott Surf Club)
International & Seafood Cuisine
Phone: 586-2288
Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
'Seafood with a view'
Restaurant open from 8:00 am - 11:00 pm
7 days a week
www.hadicurari.com



www.arubawineanddine.com

